

Hunter of Nazi speaks up for Sakharov

By John Ezard
THE West's arch-Nazi hunter, Mr Simon Wiesenthal, paused yesterday in his search to pay tribute to the internally exiled Soviet dissident Dr Andrei Sakharov.

He called Sakharov "the greatest humanitarian of our time, a man who put away all the benefits of the Soviet system to be a mouthpiece for people under oppression."

By condemning the Nobel prizewinner and his wife to the provincial town of Gorki, the Soviet rulers had "hoped to isolate him, so that he would be forgotten. But they have failed."

Mr Wiesenthal, aged 76, was speaking at the Fifth International Sakharov Hearing, at which 300 delegates from many western countries gathered in a London conference hall to honour a man who is restricted to a flat with 50 square metres of space. The gatherings, held every two years, also aim to document Russian breaches of the 1975 Helsinki agreement on human rights.

Mr Wiesenthal urged western governments to renew pressure on the Soviet Union for compliance with the agreement. In exchange for promising to comply, the Soviet Union had benefited because their postwar borders in Europe had "become holy."

He added that he was speaking in reply to the Soviet newspaper Izvestia, which had reproached him for getting involved in "anti-Soviet activities" after a lifetime of trying to bring Nazi criminals to book. But he had been forced to become involved to help to ensure that dissidents were not forgotten.

Later in the hearing, Mr Wiesenthal came under another form of pressure. He had been reluctant to discuss his anti-Nazi work for fear that this would overshadow the hearing. But after persistent requests from press and television, he gave a short press conference about the Nazi war criminal Dr Josef Mengele.

He said it was necessary that Mengele, who is wanted for the murder of 400,000 Jews should be brought to trial to answer those who "deny the Holocaust and the death chamber."

He had "a big hope" that the West German Chancellor, Mr Kohl, would have "serious talks" with the Paraguayan president, Dr Stroessner, when the latter visits Bonn in July. Mengele has been living in Paraguay since his escape after the war.

But it was not known what name Mengele was using. The Paraguayan authorities could simply deny he was in their country. He understood that Mengele bought a new passport five years ago, valid until this year. He believed Mengele was still alive and in South America.

Osprey watch

A pair of ospreys have arrived at their traditional site at Loch Garten nature reserve in the Scottish Highlands, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds said yesterday. Volunteer teams are ready to mount a round-the-clock guard as soon as the birds lay eggs.

Animal rights expulsion case goes to court

By Sarah Boseley
The British Union for the Abolition of Vivisection is to take legal action to force three senior members of staff to comply with a decision of the union's executive obliging them to leave the union's offices.

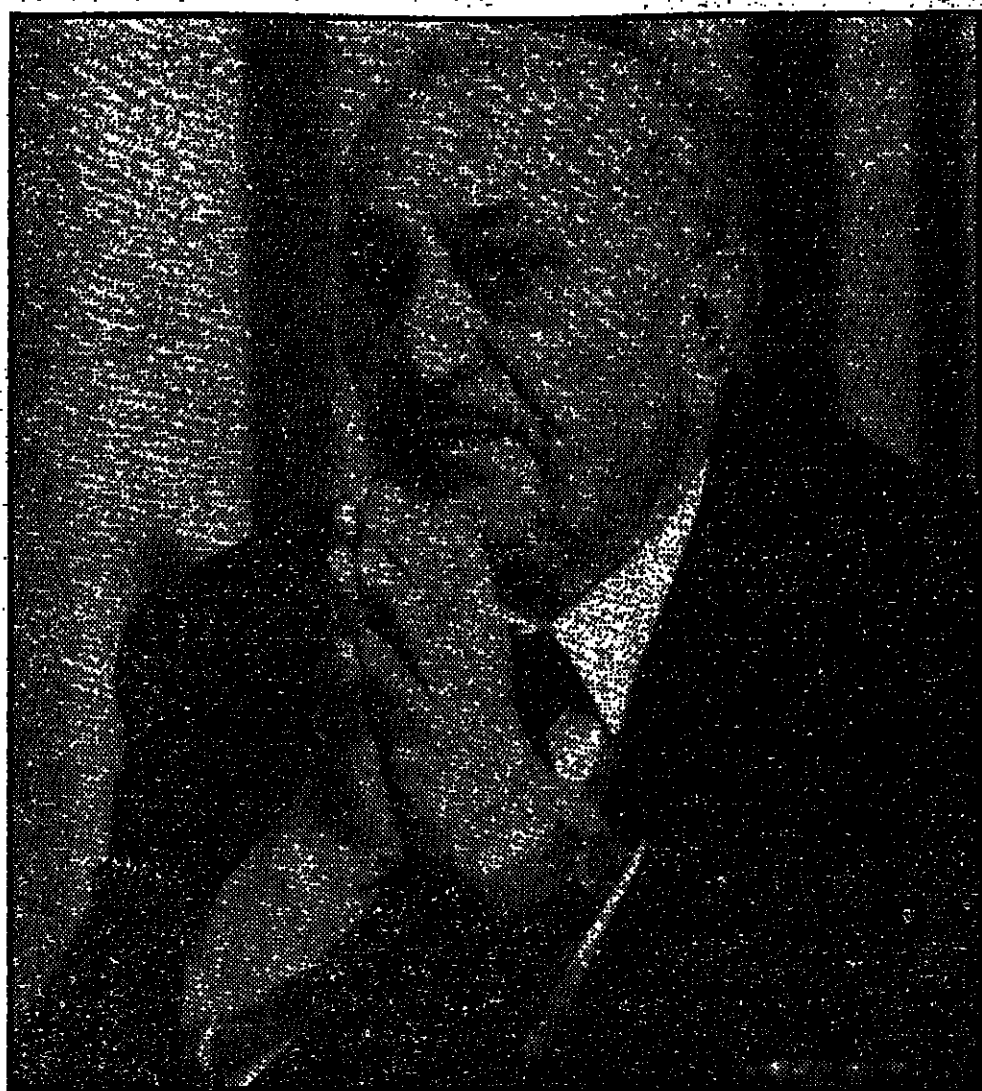
The executive intend to go to the High Court to get the staff out, while the staff plan to call an extraordinary general meeting of the BUAV, for which they have the necessary backing, to vote on the removal of the committee members who oppose them.

The staff members — the office manager, Ms Margaret Manzoni, the campaigns officer, Mr Kim Stallwood, and the group student co-ordinator, Mr Paddy Broughton are continuing to work in the union offices in Islington, north London, even though the executive committee has cut off the telephones.

They claim that the committee meeting on March 31 which ousted them was illegally convened and that their sackings were invalid. They say they have been given no reason for their dismissal, which breaks their union agreement.

Ms Margaret House, an executive committee member, said that she and her colleagues who had voted to sack the three had been consulting a solicitor. "We are moving to the point where we shall have to get litigation in the High Court," she said.

She added that the sacking decision "was all to do with their work and nothing to do with policy." She claimed that the staff had been "in the divisions over the heads of the



Simon Wiesenthal addressing the Sakharov hearing — Soviet rulers had hoped to isolate him but they have failed.
Picture by Garry Weaser

Left MPs warned on handouts to party

By David McKie, Parliamentary Correspondent
The Labour chief whip, Mr Michael Cocks, has written to the party's general secretary, Mr Jim Mordimer, about large sums of money which he says some MPs are handing to their local parties. He said yesterday that there was a danger of people virtually "buying" seats.

Mr Cocks's attack was mainly targeted on leftwing MPs, some of whom regularly turn large parts of their parliamentary salaries over to the party as a matter of principle.

The Labour chief whip is an old antagonist of the left, especially after the attempts which have been made to turn him out of his seat at Bristol South — initially in favour of Tony Benn, whose neighbouring seat of Bristol South-east had been put in jeopardy by redistribution.

Mr Cocks said in a BBC radio interview that he was worried that some of his colleagues were unaware of the Hastings Agreement of 1933, which puts limits on the payments which a sponsoring union, MP or candidate may make to a local party.

He was also worried by the amounts of money which members of the European Parliament were able to hand over not just to an individual constituency party but to a whole district party.

Mr Cocks said the Hastings Agreement had been brought in to prevent abuses. "But we are now getting such blatant breaches of it that I think it is time that the NEC drew people's attention to it."

It was essential to have the agreement observed because those who poured money in would otherwise have an unfair advantage in selection and reselection contests.

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Feelings had been running high among some members of the committee over the Mobilisation for Laboratory Animals campaign, begun in 1983 by four animal rights groups, including the BUAV. The campaign was run by staff members of the four organisations, including Mr Stallwood and Ms Manzoni for the BUAV. It received £38,000 in funds from the BUAV last year, according to Mr House.

The committee, which eventually co-opted the honorary secretary, Mr Alan Cheeseman, on to the campaign committee as well, were unhappy about decisions being taken without reference to them. Ms House said that the BUAV was one of the biggest sources of funds for the campaign.

The sacked staff, however, insist that regular reports were made to the executive.

They further claim that the committee never passed a resolution that staff should not represent the BUAV on the mobilisation campaign. This was set up specifically to oppose the Government's White Paper on animal experiments, which it was felt would result in their increase.

Mr Cheeseman, who supports the sacked staff, said he regarded the meeting which voted to remove the three as improperly convened.

Several of the people who have been attempting to sack staff have been knocking Mobilisation and saying they have no confidence in it. That's why we believe it should go to the membership at an EGM. We have a committee that does not reflect the membership," he said.

Staff back to work after blacking out programmes

BBC journalists warned strikes could result in suspensions

By Denis Barker

BBC current affairs journalists will be told tomorrow that they may be suspended if they go on strike.

Mr Peter Pagnamenta, the new head of current affairs, and the committee of the National Union of Journalists (NUJ) will meet tomorrow to discuss the 24-hour strike held on Tuesday in protest against the decision not to renew the contracts of six reporters.

"We would take any further action more seriously," said Mr Pagnamenta yesterday. "This time we docked their pay, but there are other things we could have done. There has

been a history of little walk-outs recently when they disagree with decisions management believes it is taking quite legitimately."

"At some point, the National Union of Journalists have to abide by agreements on this sort of thing. I hope that emotional reaction to the loss of mates was the principal thing which produced this action, and that fear of any deterioration in BBC current affairs was not what it was about."

Mr Pagnamenta said it was nonsense to suggest that the BBC was going to put less emphasis on current affairs. "We are doing 3½ hours a day of television, which is

essential to the BBC's public service, and I have had no indication from anybody that we are to do less of it, or do it less well than we are doing it now," he said.

"On the contrary, we are going to do it better. Looking at the six whose contracts we are not renewing, I do not think you can sustain the argument that we are damaging serious journalism."

Staff at BBC Lime Grove were working normally yesterday, so that the programmes which were lost on Tuesday — London Plus, Newsnight and Wednesday morning's Breakfast Time — could go out as usual.

"We are going to move on

and work normally, assuming that the changes that are going to be made do not cause difficulties," said an NUJ chaplain member. "There is a residue of suspicion and bitterness over the way the reporters were treated, and that is going to take a while to heal, but everything is back to normal here."

However, the chapel will ask for assurances about the terms on which people in the regions will serve the London Plus programme. It will also object to producers recording short items to camera without reporters and will establish whether there will be changes in working conditions as a result of planned collaboration between Newsnight and Panorama.

Question Time proves an increasing lure

By Colin Brown, Political Staff

Prime Minister's question time has proved so popular with MPs that the number of oral questions tabled for her by backbenchers has risen by nearly 75 per cent.

The total cost of printing the questions is about £145,000

a year, a remarkable investment by MPs in their own ability to get on to the most popular platform in Parliament which is broadcast live.

The Commons select committee on procedure has decided to carry out changes in an attempt to save an estimated £70,000 on the printing bill. It has decided to stop the repetitious printing of "open" ques-

tions to the Prime Minister and instead merely print the wrongfoots.

Aides to the Labour leader, Mr Neil Kinnock, take great pains in devising questions which could trip up Mrs Thatcher. They will be pleased to know, along with other MPs, that there is no chance of ruling out the open question in that Mrs Thatcher goes through an exhaustive briefing on Tuesdays and Thursdays to

make sure she is not wrongfooted.

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Prague uses Sir Geoffrey's visit to attack Star Wars

Howe tells Czechs home truths on human rights

From Heila Pick in Prague

The first discordant notes of Sir Geoffrey Howe's East European trip were heard here yesterday when the Czechoslovakians took the opportunity of the Foreign Secretary's visit to attack the United States.

In return, Sir Geoffrey, aware that he would be unable to meet any member of Charter 77 human rights group, delivered the strongest attack on human rights abuses in the Communist world heard from any British spokesman for a long time.

The confrontation came at the end of a festive lunch. The Czechoslovakian Foreign Minister, Mr Bohuslav Chvojka, delivered a toast in which he condemned the US for "attempts at misusing the Geneva talks to camouflage or even justify the further escalation of armaments."

He made clear that he was speaking of MX missiles, and space weapons, and taunted Sir Geoffrey with his recent criticism of Prague of Reagan's Star Wars project.

After arguing that space weapons would "sharply reduce Europe's security," Mr Chvojka continued: "In keeping with this fact is also your recent remark that there would be no advantage in creating a new Maginot Line of the 21st century."

The Foreign Secretary countered by emphasising that the Soviet Union had been "engaged in space research for many years." The Russians were now "in the vanguard" of space expertise and the United States was "fully entitled to follow."

His own remarks on Star Wars in no way contradicted Britain's support of research into space, he said, noting the US commitment to negotiate with the Soviet Union before going ahead with any eventual deployment of space weapons.

Mr Chvojka also introduced the issue of German revanchism and expressed "resolute condemnation..."

of revenge seekers" who question the post-war division of Europe, and the status quo in the Helsinki Declaration.

Sir Geoffrey, however, took up the issue of the Helsinki Declaration in a very different manner, addressing himself to its human rights provisions. He quoted from the original Charter 77 Declaration which said that "the human rights and freedoms underwritten by the Helsinki Declaration constitute the features of civilised life."

Commitments had been made 10 years ago in Helsinki for "a code based upon universal human needs and values." Sir Geoffrey said that "the human rights and freedoms underwritten by the Helsinki Declaration constitute the features of civilised life."

Later, Sir Geoffrey told Mr Chvojka that the British public closely followed the fate of people in Czechoslovakia who suffered from their religious beliefs and from discrimination because of their political views.

Although the talks were described by the British as "businesslike, relaxed and frank," it appears that Mr Chvojka countered by suggesting that the West enjoyed taunting his country over its human rights performance because this was "a painful spot" for Czechoslovakia.

Sir Geoffrey's visit takes place against the background of rumours, which could not be confirmed, that leading spokesmen of Charter 77, and in particular, Mr Jiri Havel, the country's foreign minister in 1988 and a signatory to the charter, had been told to stay away from Prague for the duration of his stay here.

Those who have been imprisoned for their Charter 77 activities are now under "protective supervision" and have to report to the police twice daily at specific times.

Killer of US major may be charged

From Anna Tomforde in Bonn

A Soviet sentry who shot and killed an American army officer in East Germany last month is facing disciplinary measures, and could be charged with going beyond his duty as a sentry, according to Eastern bloc diplomatic sources in Bonn.

Quoting Soviet military officers, sources said that the sentry who shot Major Arthur Nicholson on March 24 near Ludwigslust, north-west of Berlin, was under arrest and may be court-martialled. The Russians, who have been embarrassed by the incident, which they feared at the time could seriously upset East-West relations, were trying to portray the shooting as an isolated case in which a soldier had panicked and overreacted.

Major Nicholson, who was attached to the American military liaison mission near Potsdam, was shot after relations at a time of superpower dialogue.

what the Russians said was a restricted area.

The incident brought initial charges from Moscow that the major had been spying, and counter-assertions from Washington that he had not violated any rules on the conduct of military mission members, who are known to indulge in what has been termed "licensed espionage."

But soon after the brief diplomatic flare-up between Washington and Moscow, both sides sought to play down the incident and made it clear they wished no alterations to the status of the military missions set up after the war in four former occupation zones of Germany.

Western diplomats said that the information now released through Eastern bloc sources reflected Moscow's desire to preserve the missions' role, as well as preventing harm being done to East-West relations at a time of superpower dialogue.



The Speaker of the US House of Representatives, Mr Thomas 'Tip' O'Neill (left), meets the Soviet leader, Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, during the US congressional visit to Moscow yesterday

French right unites

Paris: France's rightwing opposition parties sealed an electoral pact yesterday as the government confirmed voting reforms.

Announcing a united front for the 1986 parliamentary election, leaders of the neo-Gaullist RPR party and the centre-right UDF rejected any alliance with the Socialists or extreme right in the absence of a clear majority.

"We refuse to consider any compromise or deal with other political groups, whether they be of the extreme right or the Socialist party," the UDF leader, Mr Jean Lecanuet, told reporters.

The parliamentary election, due next March, will be the first for more than 25 years to be fought on the basis of proportional representation.

The Interior Minister, Mr Pierre Joxe, yesterday confirmed plans for the abolition of the first-past-the-post system and for an increase in parliamentary seats.

The reforms, outlined last week, have already prompted the resignation of the Agriculture Minister, Mr Michel Rocard, and provoked a storm of protest from opposition politicians.

The UDF and RPR yesterday reaffirmed their hostility to proportional representation, saying they would reintroduce majority voting if they win power next year.

The right accuses the Government of engineering the changes in an attempt to stay in power despite declining popularity, but the Government says it is merely making voting fairer.

Under the new system, to be put to the Socialist-dominated Parliament in the next few weeks, every political party will submit a list of candidates in each of the country's 99 administrative regions, or departments.

While the changes may help the Socialists, they are also expected to give the rightwing National Front party parliamentary representation for the first time.—Reuters

Thatcher seeks trade links with Indonesia

From Nicholas Cumming-Bruce in Jakarta

In nearly two hours of talks with President Suharto of Indonesia yesterday, Mrs Thatcher played stateswoman, discussing international issues, and saleswoman, attempting to set Britain's foot firmly in the door of development in this country which has vast natural resources.

Mrs Thatcher came to Indonesia to inject some momentum into bilateral relations and initial assessments of her visit suggests she has had some success. Her talks with President Suharto are said by both sides to have gone well.

She touched on, but apparently did not press, the issue of East Timor, annexed by In-

donesia in 1976. Mrs Thatcher asked President Suharto for his assessment of the issue.

But the nub of the British attitude conveyed by Mrs Thatcher was that this is a matter for settlement by Indonesia and Portugal in the United Nations, a safe line which Indonesia's rulers feel entirely comfortable with.

The Prime Minister went on to discuss East-West relations and to give her assessment of the Soviet Union.

Mr Gorbachev, and hear about regional issues including the role of China.

But Mrs Thatcher's main interest was in how this country of 160 million people plan to invest in its wealth of oil and gas fields under the 1984-88 development plan.

She also asked what part British business can play in it.

Indonesia's arms market loomed particularly large in Britain's interests. British Aerospace won a \$100 million contract at the end of last year for Rapier missiles and another defence contract of similar value is apparently under negotiation.

The first of three Tribal-class frigates built by Britain is due to arrive here next month and when the head of the Indonesian Navy journeys later this month to Britain where some 200 Indonesians are undergoing naval training — he will be shown a large array of additional equipment, from ships to helicopters, which Britain is eager to sell.

Pickets arrested in Danish protests

Copenhagen: More than 60 people were arrested yesterday as tens of thousands of Danes defied union leaders and stopped work.

The protest, against a two-year pay deal imposed by the Government, hit factories, schools, hospitals, public transport, newspapers and government offices. It followed 17 days of the worst labour unrest in Denmark for years.

Television was blacked out for a third time in the dispute and Danish national radio broadcast only music and news after technicians walked out.

The Prime Minister, Mr Poul Schluter, said that his centre-right coalition would "not move an inch" over the deal, which imposes a 2 per cent ceiling on private and public sector wage rises.

Police said 30 of those arrested had been among about 700 pickets blocking the ramps of ferries to Sweden at the Elsinore terminal.

Garbage in the capital again went uncollected and the key parts of Copenhagen and Aarhus remained closed.

An estimated 100,000 people attended a demonstration out-

side parliament in Copenhagen and 50,000 joined similar meetings in provincial cities.

Employers said about 26,000 workers in the private sector were on strike, roughly one in 12 of the total 300,000 covered by collective agreements.

Protesters disrupted commuter trains in Copenhagen by lying on tracks and pulling emergency brake handles.

There were no early buses in the capital or at Esbjerg. Some hospitals handled only acute cases due to staff walk-outs.

But airline officials said Copenhagen airport was operating normally, with supervisors doing the work of strikers.

The protest was called by union shop stewards in defiance both of the Government and of the progressive wing of the union, who are legally bound by the imposed wage settlement and urged a return to normal working.

The shop stewards, leader, Mr Jan Andersen, who is a member of the Danish Communist Party, said on Tuesday: "We will keep up the action until Schluter has gone."

STOCKHOLM: Europe's first recipient of an artificial heart, identified by his lawyer as a businessman on trial for tax evasion, is in good condition, his surgeon said yesterday.

The public prosecutor, Mr Magnus Stenberg, said he had no plans to drop long-standing charges against the patient, named by his lawyer as Leif Stenberg, aged 52.

"The operation changes nothing," Mr Stenberg said. If convicted, Mr Stenberg could face up to six years in prison.

Professor Bjorne Semb, of Karolinska hospital, Stockholm, who is head of the team which implanted the US-designed plastic and metal heart on Sunday, told a news conference that the recipient was in better condition than he had expected.

"The patient is surprisingly well," he said. "There is no evidence of any severe problems and we're very hopeful."

A Stockholm lawyer, Mr Bjorn Rosenqvist, said he had asked for charges against Mr Stenberg to be dropped.

Bonn's Libyan envoy recalled after shooting

From our Correspondent in Bonn

West Germany has recalled its ambassador to Tripoli to discuss the Easter killing of a Libyan dissident in Bonn. But Bonn has also made clear that it had not at present considered taking more drastic diplomatic action.

The government spokesman, Mr Peter Boenisch, said the ambassador would return after consultations, which the government hoped would throw some light on the background of the murder of Mr Gebriji Denali, aged 30, an opponent of the regime of Colonel Gaddafi.

Two German passers-by were seriously injured in the shooting on Saturday and one of them, a 43-year-old woman, is still critically ill.

Mr Boenisch said that until investigations were completed, Bonn would not adopt the view that the killer, Fatah Tarhoni, was acting on behalf of the Libyan authorities. He also ruled out the cutting of diplomatic ties with Libya.

West Germany's second largest city, Bonn, has also denied knowledge of the Iraqi charges.

He said the Federal Criminal Office had information that Tarhoni planned murder in Bonn. But the local immigration authorities, unaware of the police information, extended Tarhoni's visa for two months.

Tarhoni, who said he brought the revolver used in the killing from Libya, had met his victim in a Bonn cafe and talked to him only two days before the shooting. The spokesman also confirmed that the head of Libya's intelligence services, Mr Yunis Belgasseem, was in West Germany for medical treatment.

Mr Denali, who belonged to the opposition in General Union of Libyan Students and had been granted political asylum in West Germany, was not the first Libyan dissident to be murdered here. In 1980, a Libyan, who was later in an exchange deal, was shot.

Meanwhile, Iraq yesterday ordered the West German charge d'affaires, Mr Helmut Arndt, to leave the country within seven days.

A foreign Ministry spokesman said without elaborating that the envoy was guilty of "flagrant interference in Iraq's internal affairs."

In Bonn, officials denied knowledge of the Iraqi charges.

Israel will continue to punish guerrillas

From Ian Black in Jerusalem

Israel will have no hesitation in attacking guerrilla targets in Lebanon after the completion of its three-stage withdrawal to the international border next month, the Prime Minister, Mr Shimon Peres, said yesterday.

Speaking during a visit to an Israeli paratrooper unit serving near the Lebanese port city of Tyre, Mr Peres said he believed the Israeli army was far superior to its Syrian counterpart, and he advised Syria to act "with restraint in Lebanon, as it had on the Golan Heights front."

Israeli military sources said yesterday they were worried that the regime in Damascus would encourage Shi'ite Muslim and Palestinian attacks across the border once the withdrawal ended. They were especially concerned about the possibility of a Shi'ite-Palestinian alliance.

The Prime Minister told the soldiers: "We don't want Lebanese land, or Lebanese water, or Lebanese politics. But if anyone fires at us, nothing will prevent us from responding at once as is appropriate."

Two soldiers killed in a suicide car bomb attack in southern Lebanon on Tuesday were buried yesterday, as the army announced it was setting up an investigation to determine whether there had been lapses in the tough security measures in force in the occupied area.

Nearly 650 Israeli servicemen have been killed during the war in Lebanon.

The soldiers died when a 16-year-old Lebanese Shi'ite girl, Sana Mheidieh, crashed a car into an Israeli position at the Ba'r ash-Shouf checkpoint on the Litani River. A film of the girl made before her suicide mission was broadcast on Lebanese television late on Tuesday night. She said in the interview that she was going to join "other martyrs" killed in anti-Israeli attacks.

An Israeli soldier injured in the attack, said yesterday, the girl had driven slowly up to the checkpoint and had shown no sign of nervousness as she drew level with an army jeep seconds before the explosion.

In announcing Mheidieh's death, the Lebanese National Resistance Movement pledged to carry out more suicide operations "until our occupied south is liberated."

The mother of an Israeli army corporal, Mendel Melamed, one of two soldiers killed in Tuesday's suicide car-bomb attack in Lebanon, mourns her son at a funeral held outside Tel Aviv yesterday.

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US firms indicted for arms smuggling

New York: Four American arms dealers and an electronics firm were indicted yesterday for exporting arms illegally, including selling sophisticated night vision devices to Argentina during the Falklands war.

While prosecutors said an unnamed Argentine official was involved in the deal, the federal grand jury indictments did not accuse Argentina of violating weapons export laws.

"Until Argentina got these devices, it was fighting blindfolded in the Falklands war," said Mr Patrick O'Brien, the assistant regional US customs commissioner.

Besides selling the device to Argentina, the four were also charged with attempting to export weapons to Poland and Iraq, and night vision goggles to the Soviet Union.

They were alleged to have made \$1 million profit on the Argentine deal which involved selling 1,300 night vision goggles which allowed soldiers to see and shoot in the dark.

According to Mr O'Brien, Britain already had these devices. After the war began in April 1982, Argentina found itself trying to buy as much weaponry as it could.

When Britain recovered the islands after the 10-week battle, its soldiers found fields littered with the illegally-sold devices originally developed by the United States for the Vietnam war, said Mr O'Brien.

Indicted yesterday were the HIR Security Electronics Company of New York, its president, Mr H. Leonard Berg, aged 49; Mr Solomon Schwartz, aged 49, owner of International Security Associates; Mr Leon Libona, aged 60, owner of Global Research Development; and Mr Grimm de Pautics, aged 41, who is charged with shipping the devices to Argentina.

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Indicted yesterday were the HIR Security Electronics Company of New York, its president, Mr H. Leonard Berg, aged 49; Mr Solomon Schwartz, aged 49, owner of International Security Associates; Mr Leon Libona, aged 60, owner of Global Research Development; and Mr Grimm de Pautics, aged 41, who is charged with shipping the devices to Argentina.

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Student dies in Chilean police raid

From Malcolm Coad in Santiago

A student has been shot dead and three Chilean trade union leaders have been abducted during raids by police and unidentified gunmen in Santiago.

The raids were followed by a new wave of bombings while in a southern Santiago suburb 50 people briefly occupied a school to back demands for an investigation of the recent murder of three government opponents and the deaths of students in past anti-government protests.

Today has been declared a Day of Reflection on the Right to Life by unions, human rights groups, and the Opposition in response to political violence.

The student, Oscar Vicente Fuentes, aged 19, was shot in the back by police when they dispersed university and secondary school students who were handing out leaflets outside a Santiago school. Several other students were arrested and expected to be charged under the Law of Internal State Security.

Armed civilians, some wearing balaclavas and boots, twice raided the offices of the Construction Workers Confederation in the centre of the capital.

Building workers' leaders who went into hiding after the raid reported that their colleagues, Jose Luis Figueroa, Rinaldo Alvarez, and Manuel Bustamante, were abducted when the raiders returned.

Neves's deputy struggles to hold support of Opposition

From Jan Rocha in Sao Paulo

THE politicians have already adjusted to the idea that the President of Brazil for the foreseeable future is a minor poet from the backward state of Maranhao.

Mr Sarney, the man Tancred Neves chose as his deputy.

Mr Sarney, aged 54, is a member of the Brazilian Academy of Letters. He is also a career politician, who began on the progressive wing of the Conservative UDN Party, preaching agrarian reform and counting on the votes of the peasants in his home state in the north of Brazil.

After the military coup of 1964, Mr Sarney changed sides, and was elected on the government ticket to govern Maranhao. The man who had advocated land reform now began handing out huge tracts of public lands not to the peasants, but to the big southern companies, who, favoured by government legislation, wanted to set up cattle ranches.

After being governor, Mr Sarney was elected Senator, and became chairman of the government party, the PDS.

In 1984 he led the government vote against direct elections, but four months later, in July, he crossed the floor to join the opposition after a stormy executive meeting when his attempt to foil the rise of the presidential candidate, Mr Paulo Maluf, was thrown out.

Mr Sarney could not stomach the crude methods of Mr Maluf, so he joined the growing band of refugees who began the cluster around the

opposition's conservative candidate Tancred Neves.

He was chosen as Vice-President to cement the alliance between the PUDR, and the government dissident, who called themselves the Liberal Front.

He looked forward to a discreet vice-presidency, in the shadow of the increasingly popular Tancred Neves.

Tolerated as a necessary evil by the left wing of the PMDB (Brazilian Democratic Movement Party), Mr Sarney kept a low profile throughout the election campaign.

President-elect Tancred Neves was yesterday showing a slight improvement after suffering a grave post-operative crisis, but his condition was still causing great concern.

Mr Sarney's only hope of achieving legitimacy in the eyes of the political observers, is by hurrying up the introduction of the social reforms planned by Neves.

Consequently Mr Sarney has dusted down the emergency

plan for food and jobs prepared by a committee of economists earlier this year, which had been shelved by Neves's minister.

Mr Francisco Dornelles, and is encouraging the Planning Minister, Mr Joao Sayad, to give the lead on economic questions.

Mr Dornelles, who sees the battle against the 220 per cent a year inflation as the Government's main priority, even if it means unpopular measures, had taken literally his uncle's command to the first Cabinet meeting — "spending is forbidden" — and slashed public funds.

Mr Sarney's dilemma is how to reconcile the pent-up demand for change with the reality of an empty Treasury.

Neves has planned to negotiate a social pact between the unions, employers, and the Government.

Mr Sarney instead has to rely on the ability of his Labour Minister, Mr Aluizio Pazianoto, who has been dashing up and down the country, mediating in wage disputes and avoiding stoppages.

The success of this tactic, which relies heavily on Mr Pazianoto's own popularity, is about to be called into question. The militant metalworkers of the industrial region in Sao Paulo, site of most of the multinational car factories, are demanding a 40-hour week as well as higher pay, and have called a strike for this week.

Success in this strike could spark dozens more in other important sectors, and raise the spectre of social upheaval, so dear to the hearts of the rightwing military.

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Lebanon PM stages boycott of Cabinet

Beirut: The Prime Minister, Mr Rashid Karami, said yesterday that he would not attend further Cabinet meetings until implementation of a decision on measures to stop three weeks of fighting in the southern port of Sidon.

Mr Karami said he made his decision after the Cabinet listened to a report by the army command on delays in deploying extra troops to stop Christian-Muslim fighting.

I will not attend the Cabinet until all these problems are resolved," Mr Karami said. "My attitude is clear and frank, namely to save Sidon."

Political sources said the army was unwilling to send extra troops in, as the Cabinet had decided, because it wanted a political solution to the conflict.

The last time the Lebanese army was involved in sectarian fighting in Beirut, split along confessional lines.

The Minister of Education, Mr Selim al-Hoss, supported Mr Karami in his decision, Beirut Radio said.

The boycott is the gravest threat so far to the future of Lebanon's year-old "national unity" cabinet, already boycotted by three of its original 10 members.

Mr Karami, who is serving his tenth term as Sunni Muslim Prime Minister, said that he would continue private contacts to stem the fighting in Sidon.

Nine people were injured in fresh fighting between Christian and Muslim forces around Sidon yesterday, security sources said. The fighting centred on Ain al-Hilweh and Miyeh Miyeh Palestinian refugee camps

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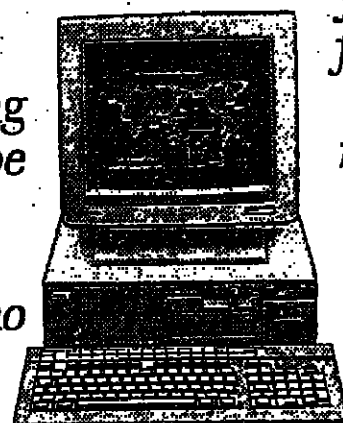
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Naval deal with Washington
likely to anger New Zealand

China wins US pledge to ban visits by nuclear ships

From Mary-Louise O'Callaghan
in Peking

The US is giving to China the non-nuclear guarantee on all ships visiting Chinese ports that it has refused to give to New Zealand, according to the General Secretary of the Communist Party, Mr Hu Yaobang. Mr Hu said that China supported New Zealand's stand against the superpowers.

Meanwhile, China's legislators have unanimously approved the Sino-British joint declaration on the return of the British colony of Hong Kong to China in 1997. The decision was taken at the final session of this year's National People's Congress.

When vice-chairman, Mr Chen Pixian, asked delegates for final comment on the agreement, which will allow Hong Kong to retain its capitalist system for 50 years, they applauded and then raised their arms to favour.

The New Zealand Labour Government banned visits by nuclear ships from the country's ports following its election last year.

He said he would not be raising the issue during his visit to New Zealand this month, but that China supported New Zealand's non-nuclear stand.

The position taken by New Zealand with regard to this question is the internal affair of New Zealand. But it has always been our consistent position to oppose the superpowers' nuclear arms race," he said.

China had insisted on the non-nuclear guarantee from the US before they agreed to

host a goodwill visit from the US navy this year.

The official organ of the Chinese Communist Party, the People's Daily, came out in support of the New Zealand banning last year with a commentary that said China supported New Zealand's stand against the superpowers.

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Ramon Layoso, a former airport security guard, gives evidence in the Aquino case in Manila yesterday

Pakistan Cabinet named

ISLAMABAD: The new Prime Minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo, named Pakistan's first all-civilian Cabinet in eight years yesterday, keeping five ministers from the Cabinet of President Zia.

The portfolio of the 13 ministers were not immediately announced, but those retained includes the Foreign Affairs Minister, Mr Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, and the Planning Minister, Mr Mahbubul Haq.

Political sources said the two would retain their portfolios and Mr Haq was also likely to be head of the Finance Ministry as well.

The others named from the previous cabinet were the Local Government and Rural Development Minister, Mr Mir Zafarullah Khan Jamali, the Railways Minister, Mr Abdul Ghafoor Khan Hoti, and the Communications Minister, Mr Mohyuddin Baluch.

Mr Jamali, who comes from the south-western province of Baluchistan, was a contender for prime minister's office before General Zia named Mr Junejo for the job.

Mr Junejo, who announced his Cabinet 18 days after taking the oath of office, also named seven deputy ministers or ministers of state and two advisers.

It was not immediately clear when he would appoint more ministers. The Prime Minister's office was revived by constitutional amendments decreed by General Zia which also gave sweeping powers to the presidential office in addition to his all-powerful post of Chief Martial Law Administrator. — Reuters

Kampuchean rebels may get US military aid

From Mark Tran
in Washington

In a shift of US policy, the Administration no longer opposes military aid to the non-Communist Kampuchean resistance. Although there are no immediate plans to supply military aid, the change does have the way for possible American military involvement in Indo-China for the first time since the war there ended 10 years ago.

The policy alteration comes as leaders of the two groups held talks with the Secretary of State, Mr Shultz, yesterday. The visit here of the Prime Minister, Mr Son Sann, who leads the Khmer People's National Liberation Front, and Prince Ranariddh, the son of Prince Sihanouk, the head of the Sihanoukist National Union, had been planned as a show of US support for the resistance.

The two groups are allied, in an uneasy coalition, with the Khmer Rouge, which is accused of being responsible for the deaths of more than two million Kampuchians between 1975 and the Vietnamese invasion of 1978.

Until now, the Administration had opposed sending military aid to any of the factions, especially the Khmer Rouge. But it has come under increasing pressure from the Association of South-east Asian Nations, and from quarters within Congress, to help militarily the non-Communist groups, particularly after the successful Vietnamese offensive against rebel border camps.

Last week, the House Foreign Affairs Committee voted overwhelmingly in favour of \$5 million in "appropriate" aid — a euphemism for military aid — to the non-Communists. The measure has a long way to go before being adopted by the whole of Congress, but it was an unusual turn of events, since normally Congress tries to restrain the Administration from foreign adventures.

The episode is all the more ironic since some of the liberal Democrats who favour the aid are staunchly opposed to aid for the Nicaraguan rebels.

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Faced with this situation, the Administration has said that, although it thinks the non-Communist insurgents have sufficient arms, it did not think it wise to forgo flexibility on this point should circumstances change. In other words, military aid is no longer ruled out.

The Administration still prefers not to get militarily involved. It believes that the modest military needs of the Son Sann and Sihanouk groups can easily be met through Chinese and ASEAN aid. It fears that US military involvement would complicate the search for a diplomatic solution.

And, although the Administration is gratified at some congressional support for military aid for the non-Communists, there is considerable wariness at linking their military fortunes to the whims of Congress. US officials suspect that some of the liberal Democrats have taken their stand on Kampuchea to prove their toughness even as they oppose aid for the Nicaraguan rebels.

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Aquino court told of shooting

Manila: A former airport guard gave a court its first account yesterday, supporting a prosecution claim that former Senator Aquino was shot by a soldier.

Mr Ramon Layoso, aged 58, said that he did not see the shooting, but said that Aquino was still on a stairway leading down from the plane when the shot that killed him rang out. Only soldiers were on the stairway at the time with Aquino, who was shot in the back of the head.

Aquino was returning from exile in the US when he was killed on August 21, 1983. Mr Layoso added: "I didn't know where the shot came from. I turned to look and saw that they (Aquino and the soldier) were about 10 or 15 steps before reaching the staircase — they looked as though they were watching their steps, as though nothing had happened."

Mr Layoso, who repeated statements he gave a fact-finding board last year, said he was standing about 60 feet from the stairway when he saw Aquino coming down, and on both arms by two soldiers, with other following behind.

When the shot rang out and he looked again, he saw that a man in civilian clothes who was following Aquino had moved closer behind the former senator, Mr Layoso said. Mr Layoso, who has left his port job, changed his address, and was reported missing, gave evidence a week after he was found by court sheriffs.

His testimony goes to the heart of the prosecution case in that it "bolstered our theory that Aquino was killed by a soldier and not by Rolando Galman," the Chief Prosecutor, Mr Manuel Herrera, told reporters.

Galman, who the military said was a Communist assassin, was killed by soldiers after Aquino was shot.

The prosecution case against the armed forces chief, General Fabian Ver, and 25 others charged with the murder of Aquino and Galman has suffered for a lack of witnesses and retractions by several others.

The military says that Galman, disguised as a mechanic, shot Aquino on the tarmac.

The court recessed for a week. — AP

NEWS IN BRIEF

Nigeria 'blocking food aid'

THE UN World Food Programme warned yesterday for the second time in a week that more than 15 million people in Chad face starvation because Nigeria has closed its ports to Chad-bound emergency food shipments.

The WFP's African task force said in Rome that many of the facing starvation were children and nursing mothers. "The situation is serious, and it will get more serious if we don't find a solution very soon," Mr Erik Moller, head of the task force, said.

In a separate report Mr Edouard Saouma, the director-general of the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation, described the food situation as "particularly desperate" in Chad, where there have been mass movements of population in search of food.

The WFP said for unknown reasons, have been refusing to allow ships carrying food for Chad dock while accepting similar shipments bound for Niger. — AP

Terror group

A HITHERTO unknown group claims to have carried out an Easter Monday bomb attack on a Nato pipeline, the Federal Prosecutor's Office in Karlsruhe, said yesterday. A spokesman said the "Ultime Steinhilf" Fighting Unit—Revolutionary Cells—had sent letters claiming responsibility for the blast at Aalen, 38 miles east of Stuttgart, in which nobody was injured. — Reuters

Three gaoled

THREE Muscovites who smuggled gold, caviar and valuable art works to the West by declaring them as traditional wooden dolls and souvenirs have been gaoled for nine, eight and five years respectively. The Soviet newspaper Trud said yesterday they had bribed a postal worker to falsify customs forms on items they were sending to relatives in the United States. — Reuters

Village lynching

VILLAGERS lynched three people, believed to be members of an outlawed leftwing political group, at Narsingdi, 47 miles north-east of Dhaka. The Bangladesh newspaper New Nation reported yesterday it said one villager was wounded when the leftists opened fire in an effort to escape from the mob. — AP

Refusenik held

A FORMER Aeroflot navigator who asked to emigrate to the West has been detained in a mental clinic since he tried to enter the Dutch Embassy in Moscow. Serafim Yevstokov, aged 52, was detained by a Soviet guard outside the embassy as he tried to enter to inquire about visas on Tuesday his daughter said yesterday. — Reuters

Off the list

HAITIAN immigrants will no longer be classified among groups listed as a high risk in contracting AIDS because scientists can no longer identify including them in the US centre for Disease Control in Atlanta, Georgia, said yesterday. — AP

Hijack sentence

A SYRIAN hijacker who commandeered a Saudi Arabian jet and made it fly to Istanbul on April 5 last year was sentenced to eight years and four months in jail in Istanbul yesterday. Ahmed Hidir Mahesh, aged 28, was overpowered by the crew members after he forced the plane to land. — AP

Lorry crash

A DOZEN houses were burned down in Belval, east of Nancy, after a fuel lorry crashed — one of three accidents in France yesterday involving lorries carrying explosive loads. — Reuters

Priest shot

A BELGIAN priest was shot and seriously wounded when he failed to stop at a military roadblock in the southern Colombian city of Cali yesterday. Father Hubert Giffard was hit by five bullets in the head and is in a coma in a Cali clinic. — Reuters

Shell deaths

FIVE children were killed when an artillery shell exploded outside an artillery range in central Greece yesterday, George Coats reports. The children, all 10 years old, were playing close to their camp site near Thebes when the accident happened.

High time

NEPAL will move its standard time ahead by five minutes on Saturday. The new standard time will be 5 hours and 45 minutes ahead of Greenwich Mean Time. — AP

Peking purge ousts 60,000 comrades

From our Correspondent
in Peking

The Chinese Communist Party has in the past year purged 60,000 people from its membership, the general secretary of the party, Mr Hu Yaobang, said yesterday.

Mr Hu also confirmed that he and China's paramount leader, Mr Deng Xiaoping, would retain their official positions in the hierarchy.

But changes this year in some ministerial posts, vice-premierships and possibly in the State Council, would be part of the drive for a younger leadership, said Mr Hu.

Speaking to Australian journalists in Peking, Mr Hu said he would remain head of the party for at least two more years, quashing recent rumours that he might step down this year.

"Provided I do not make any big mistakes, I think I will continue to be the general secretary until the next party conference in 1987," he said.

Mr Deng would also remain

head of the Central Military Commission but neither knew who their eventual successors might be, he said.

"Comrade Deng Xiaoping is in very good health and all of us support him and hope he will remain as chairman of the commission."

Mr Hu, who heads a "rectification" committee charged with cleaning up the party, said: "In the last year, 60,000 party members have been expelled or left the party for various reasons."

Asked if changes in the leadership would include senior officials, Mr Hu said: "Ministers and a number of the number one and number two leaders of various provinces in China are already in the process of being changed."

When asked about a leading dissident, Mr Wei Jingsheng, who has been imprisoned since the early 1980s, Mr Hu said China was concerned with human rights but his release was a matter for the judicial system.

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Sudan rejects rebel ultimatum

Cairo: Sudan's military rulers have rejected an ultimatum by southern rebel leader, Colonel John Garang, to hand power to a civilian government within a week, diplomats said.

Western diplomatic reports from Khartoum said that the military command had said it would not be dictated to by Colonel Garang, who leads a rebellion in the Christian South against the predominantly Muslim North.

The diplomats said that the ultimatum, which gave the generals seven days to resign or face continued rebellion, should not be taken too seriously as Colonel Garang could be seeking a seat in a future government.

General Swareddahab, who seized power in a coup last Saturday, has named himself president of a 15-man transitional military council and appointed General Taj al-Din Abdullah as vice-president.

General Swareddahab has ignored calls from political

groups to rescind a state of emergency but has given assurances that he is working to restore civilian rule.

Sudan's capital, Khartoum, was out of contact again yesterday. Communications, restored since the coup, were cut once more and the airport was closed for the eighth day. It was not known here whether more strikes had been called.

General Swareddahab has banned strikes and political marches under the state of emergency which he imposed after taking power.

Meanwhile, the former president, Mr Numeiri, says he wants to return home "as an ordinary citizen" when possible, the weekly magazine Al-Mussawwar reported in Cairo.

The state-owned magazine said in an article that Mr Numeiri, who is in Cairo, asked President Mubarak to relay his wish to General Swareddahab.

The article was written by Mr Makram Mohamed Ahmed,

the magazine's board chairman and editor, who is known to be close to President Mubarak's office.

Mr Numeiri is reported as having said to President Mubarak: "I do not want my presence here (in Egypt) to be a burden on relations between the two countries. These relations should remain above personalities. It appears there is no alternative for me but to stay here for some time until conditions permit my return to Khartoum as an ordinary citizen who tried to play his role. Please convey this request to General Swareddahab."

Colonel Garang, in a broadcast on rebel radio on Tuesday, called on unions to continue the strikes and demonstrations "until the generals hand over power to the people."

General Swareddahab, who last year commanded military operations against the rebels in the South, has pledged to restore national unity through direct dialogue with the rebels

and to improve public services in the southern provinces.

It was not immediately clear if the formation of the military council meant a deadlock in talks between military and civilian groups on forming a caretaker government.

Meanwhile, the first envoy representing the junta in Sudan, General Youssef Hassan Jay, delivered a letter to King Fahd but said its contents were not revealed.

Mr Hassan Jay's dispatch from Khartoum, quoted Western diplomatic sources as saying that the US had agreed to provide Sudan with a grant of \$20 million to enable it to import fuel, which has been in short supply.

It said the US decision was conveyed to the military junta by the US charge d'affaires in Khartoum. — Reuters/AP

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NEWS IN BRIEF
Nigeria 'blocking food aid'
Terror group
Three gaoled
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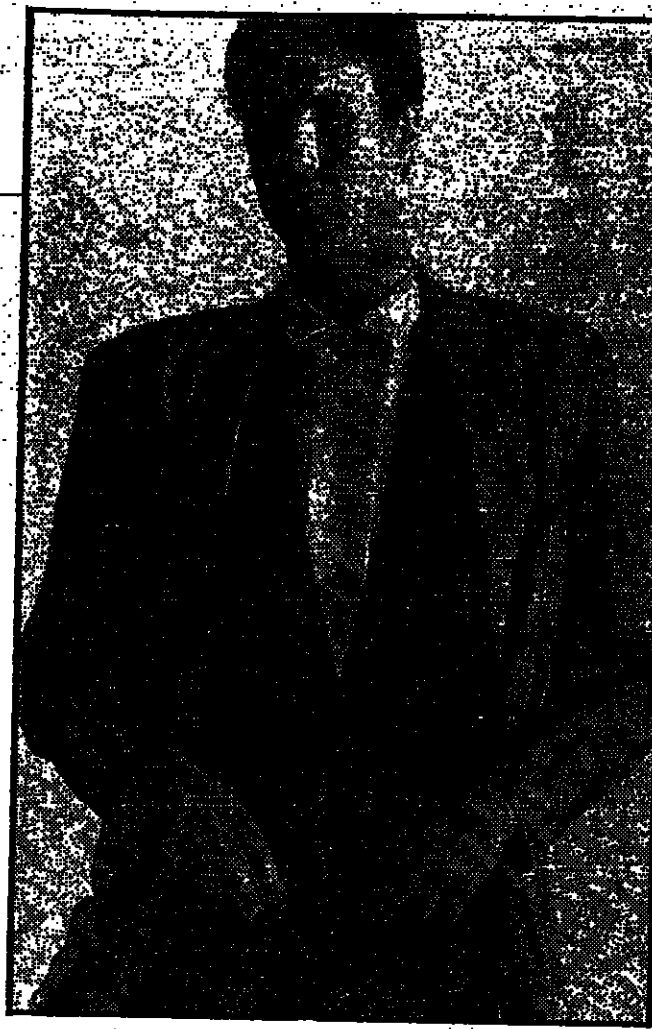
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pictures by Frank Martin



Housewives of the world unite . . . twenty-five years ago, many women were slaves to domesticity, prisoners of the mothercare-round-the-clock doctrine. Mary Stott celebrates the silver jubilee of one of the most acceptable faces of the liberation movement.

It sounds awful but . . .

IN the late fifties and sixties a young mother whose husband's change of job meant a move north, say from Hampstead to Huddersfield, or south from Chorley, Lancs, to Chorleywood, Herts, felt like a displaced person. She knew no one, suspected she was off-putting to the locals, seldom had the use of a car, perhaps not even a telephone — and there were no pre-school playgroups. (They were not invented until 1961.)

For many women then, there was also a sort of psychological lock on the front door. Dr John Bowlby's study of the damage maternal deprivation could do to children in institutions was assumed to apply also to the rearing of children at home. The "mothercare round the clock" doctrine created widespread inhibitions and feelings of guilt. Even though you knew that you might be needed to teach maths to other people's daughters, you could not risk leaving your own darling daughter, even for half a day, for fear of turning her into an emotional cripple or a delinquent.

In January 1960, Lois Mitchison, daughter of Naomi, reporting in the Guardian's Mainly for Women page on the women she found among her graduate friends in Oxford, actually suggested that we should ask ourselves "whether we have gone too far in giving women the same education on the same terms as men." Did this, she implied, render them unfit for domesticity? Did it make them restless and unhappy? The resultant fear of the world, it was said, was fast and furious. It was into this ruffled Guardian pond that Maureen Nicol, a housewife living in the Wirral, Cheshire, dropped her first pebble, suggesting "a register of liberal-minded housewives" so that women isolated in an unfamiliar area could always make contact with potential friends.

Letters immediately started to pour through. Maureen Nicol's list, that may have surprised us at the time, but what is much more surprising is that the pebble's ripples have gone on spreading for 25 years, right across the country and right round the world. By April 12-13, the National Housewives Register celebrates its silver jubilee. It will link together 24,000 women in 1,200 groups in 20 countries, and nearly 200 groups from the world, from Mexico to Switzerland, from Saudi Arabia to Denmark.

How this one woman band, so unpromisingly named, so quickly managed to recruit so many energetic and dedicated workers; how it managed to go on growing steadily

through the "melting pot" years of the seventies, when many a lively group thrown up by the ferment of "liberationist" ideas barely survived the decade, are fascinating questions. Perhaps the short answer is that thoughtful and able young women put their minds to devising a system that has the minimum of structure needed to maintain nationwide communication and the maximum of freedom for local group activity. For many years one "national organiser" practically ran the show from her own home. Now there is a well equipped national headquarters at Solihull, Birmingham, run by a paid national organiser and a paid office administrator, and a "national group" of ten elected nationally.

Local groups make an agreed contribution to national funds, but as they still always meet in one another's homes, they do not have to spend time in organising jumbles and bring and buys. They run their own group in complete independence, subject to virtually no national rules, conforming to no national policy.

An even more interesting question than how the National Housewives Register has survived so sturdily is why. The young women born since NHR was born have grown up into a very different world from their mothers' — the post-Pill world, where women expect to have full choice in deciding their roles and their way of life. They have no inhibitions about taking paid employment while their children are still quite young, if they so wish. They are free to make friends, as well as find stimulus, at work or in voluntary organisations or educational courses. Of all the labels that might be stuck on them today, "housewife" is probably the last most would choose. There are, of course, always rebels against the organisation's name. As one West Yorkshire correspondent asked in the NHR Newsletter, "How many of us have introduced NHR to friends with the comment, 'It sounds awful, but . . .'"

NHR doesn't march. It doesn't campaign or lobby. It doesn't have a political view. It maintains strictly observer status if it joins in other people's discussions of issues of the day . . . though increasingly members don't other hats to support all sorts of causes and pressure groups. As one does it? The answer is contained in a single word, talk. Members talk in their local groups, in regional conferences, in an annual national conference. Even young professional women value this outlet.

The peacock syndrome

Two centuries of conditioning take a lot of shaking off, reports Brenda Polan. But suddenly, all the inhibitions about what men can and cannot wear are evaporating . . .



Left: Pale green and khaki checked linen jacket 40-44; £395. Khaki cotton trousers (also black, white and navy) 28-34; £125. Beige, taupe and white striped cotton shirt 14½-16½; £125. Striped silk bow tie, £20. All from Basile, 21 New Bond Street, W1. Black leather loafers 7-12 (also navy); £113 from Rossetti, 177 New Bond Street, W1.

Centre: Green madras check cotton jacket (also brown and blue) 1-4; £175. Matching waistcoat, £85. Olive cotton trousers (also black and white) 1-4; £85. Cotton paisley shirt 1-4; £75. Cotton paisley tie, £25. All from Kenzo, 17 Sloane Street, SW1 and 27-29 Brook Street, W1. Green felt hat with feathers, £25 to order from John Bellwood, 22A St Stephens Gardens, W2. Tan leather sandals 7-12; £55 from Rossetti, 177 New Bond Street, W1.

Above: Grey and black check linen jacket, 34-42; £240 worn over black linen jacket 34-42; £275. White linen shirt with black dots on collar (also black with white dots) 14½-16; £95. All from Gianni Versace, 18 New Bond Street, W1 and 92 Brompton Road, SW3. All addresses in London.

ONLY a year or two ago the principal of any of our schools of fashion design, if confronted by a student intent on specialising in menswear, would probably have responded with a despairing shake of the head. Certainly, the student might make a modest living in this country if he or she were prepared to temper the imagination to meet the safe and sober demands of the mass market, to make a name the designer must be prepared to live and work abroad. There was simply no market in Britain for innovative clothes for men.

Men's wardrobes were still places where conformity edged primly towards uniformity. A bloke knew what he was expected to wear on every conceivable occasion and he was secure in the knowledge that, allowing for minute variations within strictly defined limits, every other man present would be dressed in exactly the same way. Anyone who turned up sporting garments which were inappropriate or embarrassingly different proclaimed himself either an outsider or a hopeless eccentric. Eccentrics invested in British culture with the status, freedoms, and privileges of court jester or king's fool, were to be tolerated, even treasured.

Not so outsiders. The uniforms of male dress defined

class as efficiently, if somewhat more subtly, as did the latterday contrast between the noble's velvet and the peasant's homespun. Imagine the trade union leader addressing his members at a pit or factory gates clad in a tailored camel coat with velvet lapels over a three-piece pinstripe suit, starched white shirt and plumply knotted, discreetly patterned, soberly coloured silk tie. Imagine also the chairman of the board arriving at his City office clad in a navy blue anorak with a matching red hood over a pale and crumpled two-piece suit, a brightly patterned knitted pullover, a checked shirt, and tightly knotted scarlet knitted acrylic tie.

Foreigners, unless they had the sense to ape, as so many did, the British way of dress, were even easier to spot. There they stood, quite ridiculous, in their tartan trousers, their ice cream salesman suits, their tight little pastel sweaters, their strangely baggy trousers and flashy shoes, wearing bright scarves and mufflers in an altogether feminine manner and carrying, so as not to spoil the line of their costumes with unsightly bulges, handbags. Handbags. That said it all.

The worst, of course, (if we draw a kindly veil over the predictable excesses of the

New World both north and south) were the Italians. The industrial revolution and Risorgimento may have succeeded in dulling the plumage of the Italian peacock, but his instinct for display was too central to his nature and too much a dominant factor in his macho culture to be more than slightly inhibited. Even if he had wished to abandon his right to pose, preen, and present to the world la bella figura, his mama would never have permitted it.

The ritual Sunday afternoon perambulation through the park in which most Italian families (save those afraid of kidnappers) indulge, is a time of maximum display. The adults are splendid, the flirting teenagers quite magnificent, but the children are stunning and the boy children most stunning of all. And in case they are slow and as yet unlearned in the ways of the looking glass, they are repeatedly told by solicitous adults that they are, indeed, beautiful.

So if there was to be, as there has been, a renaissance in male fashion, it is hardly remarkable that it manifested itself first in Italy. Italian tailoring, once it had worked out of its system the hair-dresser styles of the fifties and early sixties, is, pace

Savile row, the best in the world. Italian knifwear, at every level of the market, leaves the rest of the world, with the exception of a handful of Brits, standing.

The Italians, therefore, evolved a style of male dress which, while essentially classic, experimented in a restrained way with texture, colour, pattern, and shape. The leaders in the field were houses like Cerruti whose base was the production of woven fabrics like fine wool worsted and superb tailoring. It was only with the beginning of the 1980s that innovative designers like Giorgio Armani and Gianni Versace began to work seriously on leisurewear ranges and thus to change the whole vocabulary of men's clothing.

These Italian developments were paralleled in a somewhat more modest way in France. The first of the French designers to make a mark in the menswear field, Yves Saint Laurent, turned his attention to leisurewear first, since Frenchmen of his class, income, and discernment still had their suits and shirts made in London. He it was who is credited with giving men the blouson jacket. In France the next designer to change the direction of menswear was Kenzo Takada, who applied his genius for colour, mixed patterns and textures and surprising shapes, which had already earned him a

pre-eminent place in the pantheon of womenswear stars, to men's clothing. The impetus for real change came, however, from the most unlikely place: London. Vivienne Westwood dressed men as elaborately and light heartedly as she did women. In the clubs, both pop stars and fans responded with delight. Some street stylists improvised, but in the wake of Westwood came a host of designers to dress the less creative: Leigh Bowery, Rachel Aston, Jacques Hancher, John Galiano, Dean Bright, John Craner, Stephen King, and many, many more.

Established womenswear designers like Katharine Hamnett, Wendy Dagworthy, Betty Jackson, Body Map, Memento, and Jasper Conran began to develop menswear ranges which differed very little in concept and style from their clothes for women. The result was international cross-fertilisation on a scale and at a speed which made the eyes water. Suddenly all the inhibitions about what men could and could not decently wear had evaporated and whether it was in terms of colour, of texture, of pattern, or of shape, menswear designers all over Europe (and in Japan) spoke a new, exciting language.

Some of the words in the new vocabulary do as yet

quite cruelly twist the tongue of your average Anglo-Saxon. Nearly two centuries of conditioning take a lot of shaking off. So it is unlikely that the strong language employed by the top British designers will wear him away from his simple, comfortable code.

It is more likely that the moderated language of the Italian and French designers, used as they are to servicing larger markets, will prevail. So Britain's more alert mass manufacturers, while aware of the significance of Hamnett, Body Map, Galiano, et al for the younger market, will undoubtedly be more responsive to the influence of Gianni Versace, Gianfranco Ferré, Giorgio Armani, Keith Varty at Byblos, Luciano Soprani at Basile, Yves Saint Laurent, Kenzo, Jean Paul Gaultier, and Claude Montana (the latter two stocked, along with some of the best of the British menswear designers, at Browns of South Molton Street).

For in that brief couple of years, the shaking heads have learned to nod and even smile encouragement. The market, and the Briton's wardrobe, has begun to change out of all recognition. The top designer labels are still, of course, beyond the wallet of most, but the ideas they represent are not, it seems, by any means outside the imagination.

Donald Fields talks to the radio producer whose erotic programmes keep the Finns awake at night.

Sex and the single listener

HOW do the Finns, seemingly dotted around a forest-strewn void between the 60th and 70th parallels, spend the uncompromising dark nights that make up half the winter solstice? A good many of them have been listening to something called Erotiset. It is a 90-minute radio slot which goes out before midnight where listeners give vent to their innermost erotic fantasies.

The programmes are the brainchild of Seija Wallius-Kokkonen. With 20 years of radio experience behind her, Seija is now controller of social affairs programmes in the Finnish Broadcasting Company.

"The idea just came into my head when I wondered how we could counteract the gloom of winter — November especially," she explains. "My programmes have long focused on what's wrong in human relationships, and sexual problems. Now I want to bring out life's little joys." So far, there have been three live erotic evenings. Their great success is largely due to Seija's skill as an interviewer. "It requires lots of concentration, but this is what I want to do," she says. "If listeners try to turn the tables — asking me whether I have erotic dreams, for instance, — I simply give them an honest answer. It all helps

to liberate them, and to deter them from taking the mickey."

The first broadcast concentrated on how listeners defined eroticism; the second on sexual dreams; the third on hopes and daydreams. Though the audience appears to contain the proportion of heterosexuals found in the population as a whole, homosexuals and lesbians are encouraged to speak their minds. In one vivid sequence a man who had undergone a sex change explained how she now experienced female-like orgasms in her dreams.

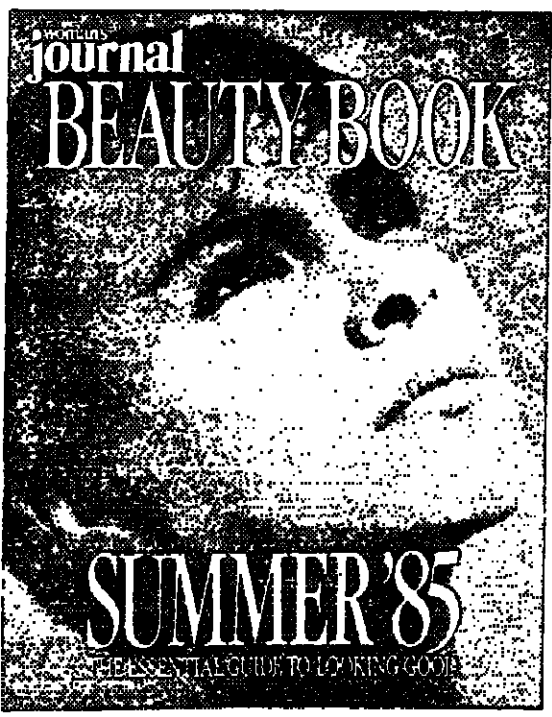
About 50 people, aged between 15-70, offered to take part in each programme. Fifty letters came in by way of feedback, the negative comments being confined to a "certain kind and certain age of woman" whom Seija views as a disgrace to her sex.

A decade ago, when Seija chaired an advice programme called Sex Letterbox, upholders of moral probity said that God would punish her. There were threats to rape her two children. Used condoms, and faeces, were sent through the post.

Seija attributes the advance in her compatriots' attitude to sex to education and the emergence of a less inhibited generation. But she also believes styles of presentation are a key factor,

with radio commanding an intimacy that television and newspapers lack. "It's no use just answering mail or saying 'thanks for your comments'," she says. "You have to create a real dialogue with your audience. The world is becoming more mechanised and

commercial, which means tenderness is vanishing from the sexual and other sides of people's lives. If we're not careful we'll find ourselves conducting human relationships through computer terminals. I want to restore the element of warmth."



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The magpie collection

**Brenda Polan meets
Rosemary Turnbull,
model turned designer**

ROSEMARY TURNBULL tucks her long legs underneath her and confesses all. "I am a magpie," she says. "I take a neckline from Krista, a shoulderline from Montana, a sleeve from Lagerfeld, a skirt from Valentino.... And I soften it all slightly, adapt the proportions for wearability and the fabric volume for price and the result is very commercial."

Within the fashion world the word commercial is frequently uttered with a fastidious curl of the lip. Even Rosemary seems slightly embarrassed by it, but all it means is that the product sells well. It is designed and produced in such a way that it manages to be attractive to a large number of customers instead of a few; and that, after all, unless you are deliberately marketing exclusivity, is what any business is about.

The company for which Rosemary works, Parigi, is part of the Trilaine group which is in turn a subsidiary of Selincourt (which also was Jacques of faded glory), the somewhat troubled company whose shares have recently taken a boost from the interest of entrepreneur Jennifer d'Abo in them.

"The company was started by Roy Haynes, now chairman of the Trilaine and Garlaine group and my boss, as a blouse house," says Rosemary. "The first range was six-georgette blouses and dresses were added later. A few seasons later they became very adventurous and went into polyester jersey. By the time I was brought in

three and a half years ago, when the two young men who had been putting the range together left to start their own company, the range consisted of many items — a few blouses, a couple of two-pieces and a dozen dresses, all in georgette — but it was not a collection. There was no consistency, no relationship between the various garments, no look.

"Now it has a look. The collection splits into two but the two halves are related and there is a consistent style to all the clothes. That is so important for the customer. Of course, she doesn't want to buy the whole collection or even a huge part of it but if, as she goes through the rails, she receives the impression that the designer has complete confidence in one particular set of proportions and in certain colour stories, then she too can start to feel confident."

"A rail of garments all in different, non-complementary colours, all reflecting conflicting ideas about proportion causes nothing but confusion, and a confused customer beats a hasty retreat — absolutely rightly. You must have seen what I mean in overstocked boutiques and stores where the buyer has no idea of the style she wants to communicate and buys a bit of this and a bit of that and crams it all together in a vain hope that she has covered all tastes and preferences."

The two parts of the Parigi collection are the smart, crisp special occasion or executive woman dresses and

two- and three-piece outfits, mostly in polyester georgette, but also in polyester crepe de chine and satin, and Parigi Sport, a youthful, fresh, and of course sporty range in cotton.

The clothes are simple, relying on good colour and strong lines for their sense of style. There is little trim and no fuss, and details which are used are classy and understated. They are clothes, in fact, very much in Rosemary's personal style which is elegant, relaxed, well groomed, and grown-up without being stuffy. It is easy to see why they suit the requirements of enough women to render them commercial.

Rosemary started her career as a much-in-demand runway model, one of the lean and lanky clothes horses who parade the catwalks of Paris, Milan and London. "I never, ever wanted to be anything else," she says. "It was the most wonderful life, the best job in the whole world. The greatest charm was the lack of responsibility. As long as you present yourself on time and look right, everyone thinks you are wonderful."

The high standard of manufacture which is a Parigi hallmark is achieved by making the clothes in Hong Kong. "The owner of the factory we use, John Ling, is endlessly helpful and accommodating. Once you have worked with the flexibility of Hong Kong manufacturers, you are spoiled for any other manufacturing industry. We are, however, investigating the possibility of making some things in Britain."

The model is the designer herself, Rosemary Turnbull. The photographer is Frank Martin. For stockists outside London, please telephone Julie Bellinger: 01-636 4662.

Top left: white/navy polyester faille three-piece skirt suit (also white/turquoise, red/white, black/red, stone/white, sugar pink/white, cobalt/white) 6-16, £225. By Parigi from Dickins & Jones, Regent Street, W1; Harrods, Knightsbridge, SW1; Selfridges, Oxford Street, W1.

Top right: shocking pink 65 per cent cotton/35 per cent polyester jumpsuit (also white, black, tobacco, jade, yellow, red, navy, flame, stone, turquoise, khaki) 6-16, £78.50. Shocking pink/white cotton T-shirt (also red/white, navy/white, stone/white, turquoise/white) smt, £22. Both by Parigi Sport from Dickins & Jones, Regent Street, W1; Harvey Nichols, Knightsbridge, SW1.

Below: white cotton top smt, £39.50. White pleated polyester crepe skirt (also rice, lemon, navy, sugar pink) 6-16, £90. Both by Parigi from Dickins & Jones, Regent Street, W1; Harrods, Knightsbridge, SW1; Selfridges, Oxford Street, W1. For out-of-London stockists (as above)



Corrine Streich describes how an American sets about becoming a hard working, hard playing 35-year-old yuppie earning lots of money and making a sacred act out of spending it conspicuously.

A groom with a view

LOOKING GOOD, being well dressed, speaking with ease, are qualities that many of us actively work at achieving in recent years, though, the necessity to look not good, and great has assumed monumental proportions in America's Yuppiedom and created much high priced employment and a new label for a group of latter-day Professor Henry Higgins's.

Calling themselves personal image consultants, they offer advice on everything from colour analysis for wardrobe selection to career goals, from how to survive a hostile media interview to how to order wine with a meal. In essence, their clients pay them to tell them everything their parents always told them for free: walk tall, sit up straight, speak clearly — and be motivated.

Unlike parents, though, image makers do not nag, and they have impressive credentials. The principal of a broadbased consulting firm draws on her success as a former marketing executive who understands what makes good packaging work. And as the ex-wife of a chief executive officer (CEO) of a Fortune 500 company, she has first hand experience in the psychodynamics of effective communication in corporate business and social situations. Her teaching methods include role play and videotaping for on-camera practice. A private day-long consultation costs \$1,500.

The image consulting industry was born in the 1970s, partly as an outgrowth of teleconferencing. Senior corporate executives, catching sight of themselves and their staff on video screens during electronic inter-office meetings, urgently sought specialists in broadcasting, public relations, speech, and audio-visual fields to coach them in speaking skills, body language, and self-confidence.

By the early 1980s, many CEOs were starting in their companies' television adverts and becoming almost as well-known as J.R. of Dallas. The days of the low profile executive were over when corporate chiefs began to groom their successors by hiring

outside consultants to coach them in style, appearance, and speech. The insecure and the ambitious who were not given in-house grooming rushed to firms with names like Putting It All Together, Face Facts, Ideal Image, whose professional goal is as they put it to help individual clients reverse any negative self-perceptions and project the image of their choice through the medium of their wardrobe.

Their services include one-on-one sessions in wardrobe planning, colour analysis, hair styling, make up, and skin care. They do not remake, but modify what you have. Dress/image consultants are also personal shoppers who scout department stores, boutiques, even wholesale outlets (and often

Yuppies jog at dawn with their headsets tuned to a lecture on one-minute management...

pass along discounts) in search of a new wardrobe for both male and female clients. Their fees from \$50 to \$250 an hour, are considered cost effective in terms of the effect created and the time it saves to have an expert coordinate a client's wardrobe into "congruent outfits." The image consultants' theory is that you must dress at least one step above where you want to be because that will make things happen for you.

The persona polishing industry has produced so many upwardly mobile hopefuls with exceptionally high standards of dress and personal hygiene that merely looking great no longer guarantees success. Persuasive executives must now be able to speak resoundingly in headline sentences with metaphors, or at the very least keep an audience from nodding off. The image enhancers now most in demand are speech and public

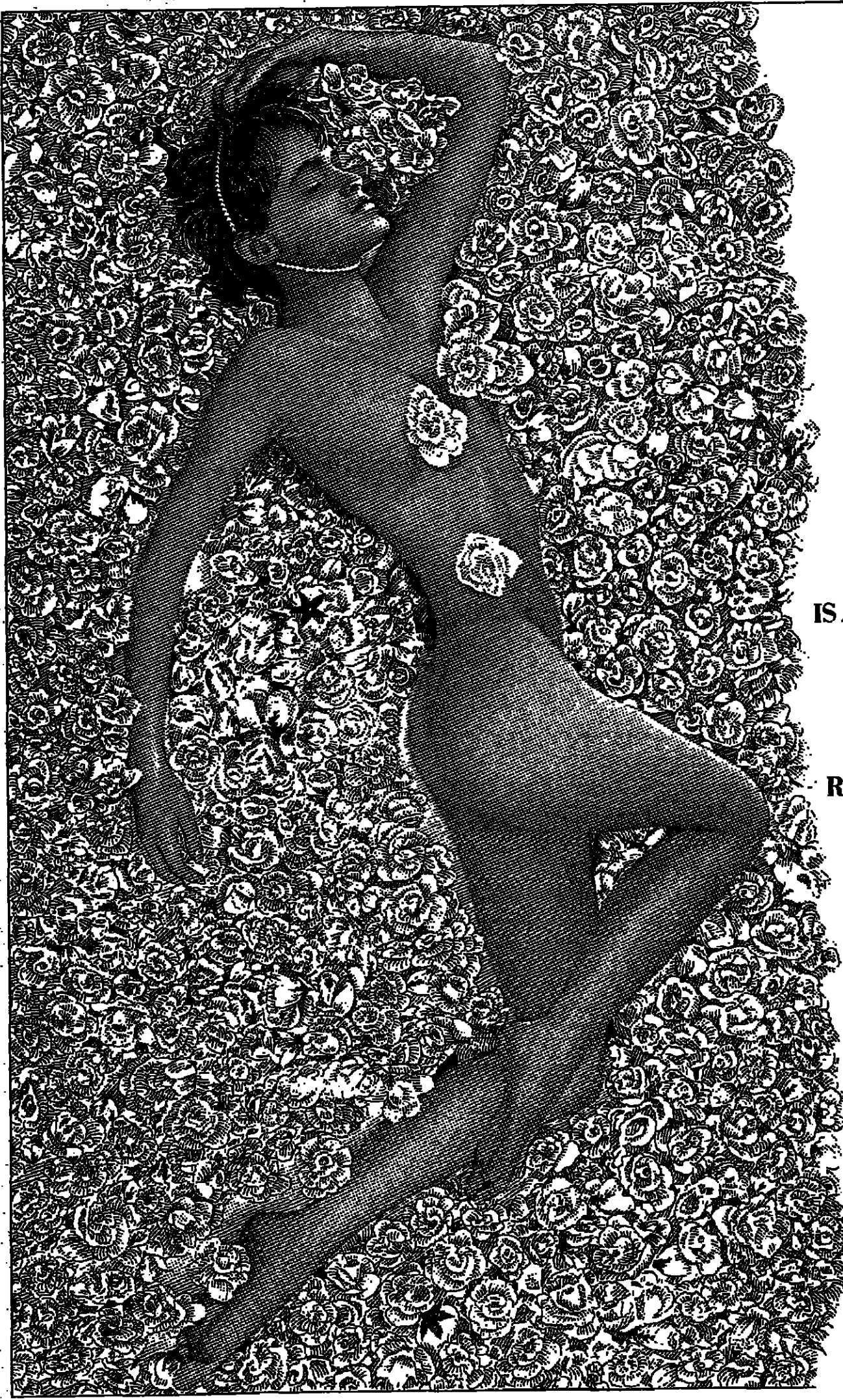
appearance consultants. Firms with names like Charisma Media, Commun-Vu, Inc. Speak Easy develop verbal and written skills as well as body language techniques in workshops that focus on business presentations, sales strategies, team training, and speaking effectively on specific issues — how to make a dismal earnings report sound better than it really is.

An air of busy-ness has become a badge of success. Yuppies jog at dawn with their headsets tuned to a lecture on one minute management or the principles of international finance law. They eat while drafting a legal brief. They do calisthenic exercises while awaiting a client over the telephone, and they all flock to night school after a state-of-the-art business day.

Anticipating change is vital if you don't want to be caught with last year's lapels. A leader among trend spotters is Inference Focus (IF), The Reagan White House and strategic planners for major corporations pay an annual \$24,000 to receive IF's reports which are published about every ten days on topics they may not necessarily find of interest to them. Focus's open-ended approach to business research, they say, is a major part of the company's appeal.

IF call themselves the CEO's Central Intelligence Agency. "We're in the discovery business," said Charles Hess, one of the four IF principles. "Each month we read some 185 seemingly unrelated periodicals, trying to detect emerging patterns in any number of different industries and spheres. Actions make statements to us. They are clues to unintended messages that change is taking place."

Right now, IF observes that everyone wants to be a hard working, hard playing 35-year-old yuppie making lots of money and making a sacred act of spending it conspicuously. The baby boomers are the focus of media and marketplace consultants, the bread and butter of the image making industry. They're all redesigning the emperor's new clothes. To them, the image is the reality.



**A ROSE
IS A ROSE IS A ROSE
IS A ROSE.**

(Gertrude Stein)

**THE
ROMANTIC LOOK.**

(Dickins & Jones)

Gerry Donaldson reports on the Antwerp Festival

Thong and dance

ANTWERP may not figure in the major league of European film festivals but it is certainly distinctive. The expanded and non-competitive festival included a weighty tribute to the Japanese cinema of the last two decades and the now almost obligatory retrospective of Powell and Pressburger.

Most attention was nevertheless directed towards the large number of US independents invited and, in spite of the Benelux premieres of *The Brother From Another Planet*, *Repo Man* and *This Is Spinal Tap*, already well known here, it was the films which cut into rather than scratched the surface of the American psyche which impressed most, led by a trio of outstanding documentaries.

Dances Sacred and Profane (Mark and Dan Jury) seems destined for cultdom. It is an extraordinary odyssey, four years in the making, in which time the film-makers dogged the footsteps of social anthropologist Charles Gatewood as he explored the American sub-culture.

From the Belle de Jour salon in New York via Naked City, Indiana and the ever-ground orgy that calls itself New Orleans Mardi Gras, the film brings us finally to a mountain top in Wyoming, where a man is to perform the Sioux Indian Sundance ceremony. Earlier we have seen the same man, Fakir Musafar, re-enact a Hindu rite involving almost limitless piercing of his body. Now we see him suspended from a cottonwood tree by thongs attached to his pectorals.

What Richard Harris faked in *A Man Called Horse*, Fakir Musafar, a white Californian businessman and "modern primitive," does for real in order to communicate with the Great Spirit. As the New Orleans reveler seeks to get out of his mind for whatever purpose, so Fakir Musafar seeks to get out of his body to be closer to his Maker.

Charles Gatewood's talking head interjections mercifully avoid sociological interpretation but rather invite mature consideration of what we have witnessed. Like all good documentarists, the Jurys point an unblinking camera and let the subject speak.

The unblinking camera, astonishing images etched on to the retina. Not easily erased and nor should they be; a testament to an illuminating, provocative and unique work.

Templing as it will be to promote it as a kind of Mondo Cane one hopes that its eventual British distributor accords this excellent film the respect that the major makers accorded their subjects.

Before *Stonewall*, directed by Greta Schiller, is a compilation of the homosexual experience in America using filmed recollections, archive footage and the documentation of the sub-culture itself.

A low-key piece it induces compassion without inviting it. Too late of course for the ageing and uncompensating inhabitants of the demi-monde reminding on camera. For them the word "gay" had not yet been requisitioned.

The *Stonewall* of Schiller's film is a Greenwich Village bar, whose storming by New York police in 1969 became the watershed of the Gay Rights movement. *Stonewall* is depicted in microcosm in *The Mirror of Harvey Milk* (Robert Epstein and Richard Schmichen) in which the eponymous central figure, a San Francisco camera shop owner with an interest in neighbourhood politics, finds himself elected to the city Board of Supervisors, the first openly homosexual individual to achieve such office.

Together with the mayor, Milk was in the forefront of the campaign to maintain the civil rights of the gay community against the Anita Bryant-inspired moral crusade. For their pains both were murdered by a fellow politician, whose derisory sentence provoked a crisis on the streets and in the city Justice Department.

An ordinary man who simply sought to improve the lot of his fellow man, Harvey Milk's memory is nobly served by a very powerful and affecting movie, which during the Antwerp Festival became one of the more deserving winners of Academy Awards when it landed the "Best Documentary" prize.

In the mainstream, by far the best film of the festival was *Stig Bjorkman's Behind The Shutters*, a neat, devious thriller set in Morocco, which Erlend Josephson as a soon-to-be-divorced writer constructs fantasies from his jealousies about his wife and the striking Italian blonde in the apartment opposite.



Through the mists of time — Georgy Corralini, right, in *A Very Moral Night*; and a scene from *Unfinished Piece For Mechanical Piano*

Tim Palleine reviews the week's releases — *A Very Moral Night*, *Unfinished Piece For Mechanical Piano*, *Living Planet*, *In The Name Of The People*, and *Leila And The Wolves*

Tricks of the red light trade

BROKEN MIRRORS last week provided a view of life in a brothel that was, to put it mildly, baleful. This week, Karoly Mak's period piece *A Very Moral Night* (Berkeley, 15) offers us a markedly different perspective on the same subject.

No doubt a thesis will someday be written, assuming it does not already exist, on the cinema of the oldest profession, which stretches back easily to the Griffith era. Particular attention would doubtless be paid to those post-war French policiers in which ageing characters were snatched from the clutches of white-slavery in productions with titles like *The Width Of The Pavement*. There were even British imitations, such as *The Flesh Is Weak* with John Derek (now husband of 80) as the arch-pimp, substituting his victims even as they stepped off the boat train, which somehow managed, one recalls, to arrive at St Pancras.

On the other hand, there

have been any number of semi-comic romps and bitter-sweet anecdotes, generally in costume. In reference to these, the okay name tends to be Maupassant, though the mood has most often been of Maupassant pumped full of confectioner's cream.

It is to this generally not very distinguished lineage that *A Very Moral Night* belongs. It is a Hungarian film set at the turn of the century and looks back at the good old-bad old days in an unambiguous haze of nostalgia.

The small town bordello around which it revolves is a jolly-seeming home from home, with haute cuisine on the menu and the ladies passing their leisure hours in striking semi-nude poses as if they expected Renoir or even the ghost of Rubens to drop in at any moment. A medical student, living on money from home but able to stretch it to the pleasures of the flesh, is among the clientele, and for no very apparent reason, the madame

offers him cut-price board and lodging. Soon he is living the life of Riley, accompanying the girls on picturesque picnics and summarily demanding breakfast in bed — no truck here, of course, with scruples about sexism.

Before long, though, his elderly mum turns up for an unexpected visit, and we all fail to fall about as the silly old trout is tricked into believing that her son is living in the bosom of respectability. The premise is almost that of farce, but the speed and invention are missing.

A Very Moral Night is sometimes pretty to look at, and as a post-prandial diversion it might have something to offer. But considering that one of its writers is Peter Bacso, writer-director of the mordant satire *The Witness*, one can't help feeling that the project is rather a waste of talent. And considering that the film was made as long ago as 1977, one can't help wondering why it was deemed worth taking off the shelf this late in the day.

A more substantial Eastern European costume movie is the Soviet film *Unfinished Piece For Mechanical Piano*, showing at the National Film Theatre (matinee, April 15-19) in a season devoted to the work of its director, Nikita Mikhalkov.

This is a free adaptation of Chekhov's early play *Platonov*, though in some respects the model it may bring to mind is Eugene O'Neill's *Long Day's Journey Into Night*, and not only in the literal sense that it begins at breakfast-time and progresses to the following dawn.

Sometimes the journey does feel rather long and a degree of torpor attends the tragicomic round of soul-searching and self-disclosure compounded in the earlier stages by problem sorting — but that said, the film is fluently mounted, with some unobtrusively mobile camerawork conspiring to ward off stagnation in what properly remains a theatrical spirit.

One is struck by the extent to which the action, unfolding at a lakeside summer home, seems to assume an independent life, unhampered by symbolism. The quality of ensemble playing substantially contributes to this and it may well reflect the extensive acting background of the director, who appears in a subsidiary role.

If sheer physical spectacle is what you're after, one place to find it is on the gigantic Imax screen at the National Museum of Photography in Bradford. *Living Planet* (directed by Francis Thompson) is in content no more than a conventional round-the-world travelogue, but its imagery has a depth and clarity that take the breath away and manage to convince that bigger really is better.

Whether a system as all-embracing as this could be used to tackle anything resembling a conventional narrative, or indeed to the demands of complex editing, must remain an open question, though the

prospect of, say, an Imax 2001 is an exciting prospect. But in terms of re-awakening a sense of wonder at what moving pictures can achieve, *Living Planet*, with its swooping and titling vistas of landscape and architecture, is more than enough to be going on with.

Possibly acute vertigo sufferers would be advised to close their eyes during the helicopter shot which peers down into the concrete canyons of Manhattan; but anyone else within striking distance of Bradford should think of taking in an experience which seemed to me a good deal more exciting than I remember finding Cinerama in childhood.

The American documentary *In The Name Of The People* showing at the Rio, Dalston, as part of the London Latin American Festival, is an impression — filmed obviously under conditions of considerable risk — of life with a unit of the FMLN guerrillas in El Salvador.

One or two incidents, like the curious military-style wedding of two of the members, have an air of being staged for the camera. But much of the film, both in interviews and direct reportage, has a raw and painful immediacy, and the effect is redoubled by a closing announcement that several of the people we have been watching are no longer alive. *Leila And The Wolves* (Gate), directed by Helny Sprout, purports to deal with "the collective memory of Arab women and their hidden role in the recent history of Palestine and Lebanon." This may sound somewhat forbidding but comes out rather muddled.

The assorted episodes are none too convincingly staged but they don't take on emblematic weight either. It is perhaps only when the camera surveys vistas of devastation in Beirut, with a contemplative vividness that converts them in nightmarish action paintings, that the film exerts an imaginative grip.

Helen Oldfield takes a scornful look at the new line in TV double acts Model cop steps out of the closet

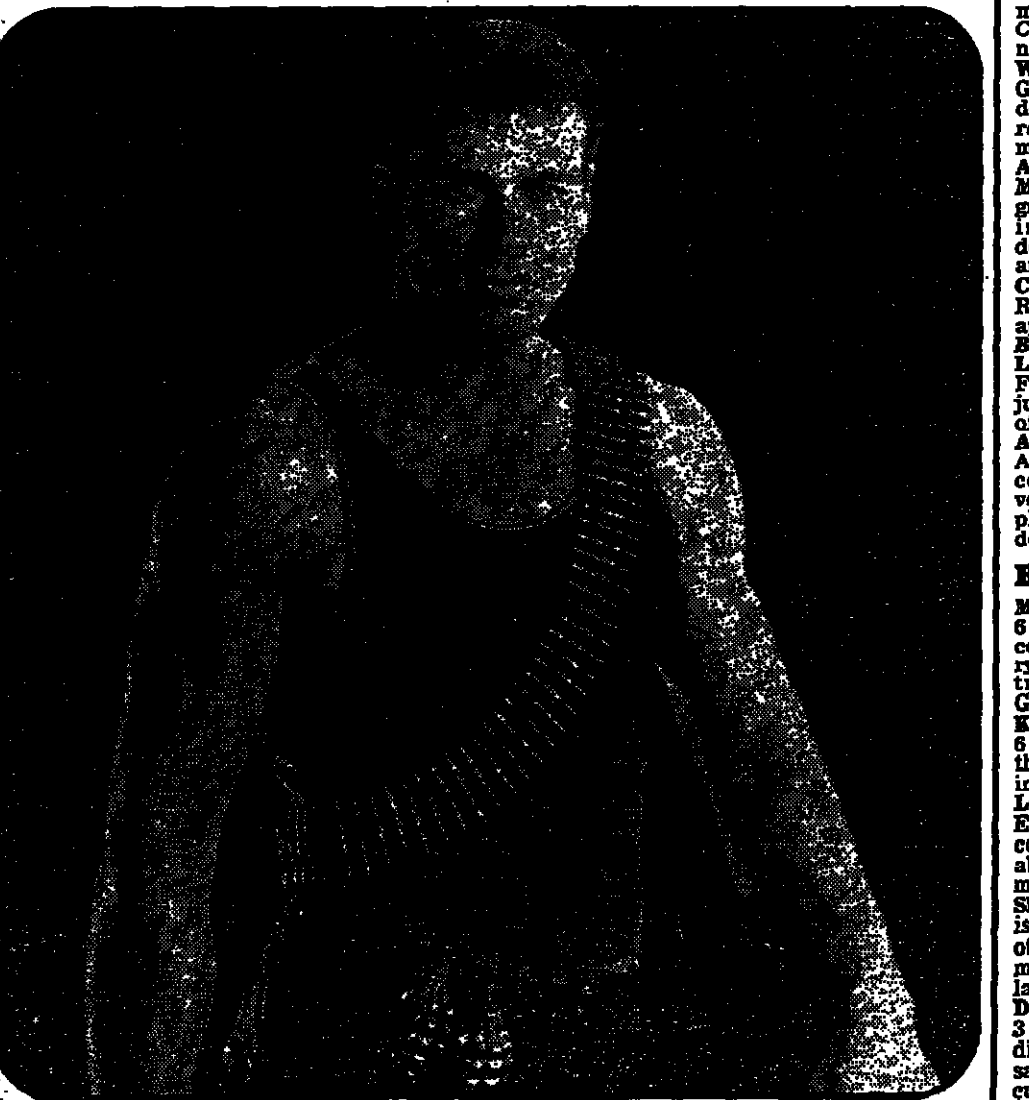
THERE used to be a rule of thumb for American thrillers: if there was plenty of violence but very few deaths, like *The A-Team*, it was fantasy, kids' stuff, suitable for early evening viewing; if people died, profusely and gruesomely, even leaving behind grieving relatives, then it was realism, Bill Street Blues-style.

Cover Up, the BBC's new American import which begins with an hour and a half of tonight, and continues with the first episode of the series the following night, is a new kind of hybrid. Jennifer O'Neill, undeniable glamorous but of a certain age, plays a fashion photographer cum-undercover agent; her sidekick, Jon-Erik Hexum, a Prince Andrew look-alike with a sub-Schwarzenegger build, is a decorated soldier turned reluctant male model.

Together they travel from one exotic location to another — La Costa, a kind of deodorised El Salvador, on Thursday, Italy on Friday — making the world safe for the American way. There's plenty of mayhem and death all right, but it's also pure fantasy. The question is, for whom?

Ostensibly the role reversal — where she's the leader and he's the sex object — suggests a bow to feminism. I doubt if many women will be cheering. True there's no father-figure controlling the new daredevil woman, as there was in Charlie's Angels, and still is in the new IT series, *CATs Eyes*, but Miss O'Neill, aggressively sexy in her tailored suits and décolleté dresses is more of a dominatrix than the female answer to Clint Eastwood.

What we have here is a closet gay fantasy. The more Mac Harper — Hexum's character — piles on his macho credentials, his marksman-like, his tireless gallantry, his overwhelming attraction for the villainess, the more he looks like an auxiliary member of the Village People. Just as his modelling assignments provide a cover for his secret agent activities so they offer a splendid excuse for him to pose, moody and magnificently in a string vest, like a centre-piece in a muscle and beauty magazine.



Global village person — Jon-Erik Hexum as Mac Harper in *Cover Up*

The sublimated gay fantasy originated in the buddy movies like *Butch Cassidy and The Sundance Kid* and *The Sting*, with those copper-bottomed dreamboats of either sex, Redford and Newman, and flowered in the extended but never explicit male love affairs in *Splash* and *Butch and the Squeaky Wheel*. The Professionals, Miami Vice, the latest in the genre, throws in a style and dress sense borrowed from gay culture.

Cover Up has the style but dispenses with the buddy. However, as Adam Mars-Jones points out in the introduction to the collection of

gay fiction he edited, *Mac West Is Dead*, long-standing emotional attachments play no part in the idealised gay sub-culture portrayed at the pulpy end of gay literature. In a devastating critique of *Vermilion*, a best-selling American gay thriller, Mars-Jones implies that Daniel, the hero, is a cop-out because he depends on a battery of "alibis" to justify his way of life. In fact, from his description, Daniel aside from his avowed gayness could be a role model for Mac Harper: his expression was one of self-confident, easeful

BRIEFING

Best films

La Belle et la Bête (Everyman). Revival in new print of Cocteau's wonderfully luminous poetic fantasy. *Wetherby* (Curzon West End). Crisp and stylish feature debut by David Hare with remarkable central performance by Vanessa Redgrave. *A Soldier's Story* (Release). Murder mystery with background of black US Army unit in last war: impressive despite elements of glibness and theatricality. *Carmen* (Lumiere). Francesco Rosi's swaggering cinematic approach to the Bizet opera. *Baby-Secret Of The Last Legend* (Odeon, Marble Arch). Fast-moving enjoyable junior movie about discovery of prehistoric craters. *Amadeus* (ABC Shaftesbury Avenue). Milos Forman's commandingly opened out version of the Peter Schaffer play — laden with Oscars but don't let that put you off.

Best on TV

Memphis Belle (Today, C4, 6.10). William Wyler's justly celebrated WW2 documentary impression of a Flying Fortress bombing raid over Germany. *Kiss Me Kate* (Friday, BBC-2, 6pm). Lively MGM version of the Cole Porter musical, originally made in 3D. *Long Shot* (Friday, C4, 11.20). Engaging low-budget British comedy from Maurice Haton about the pitfalls of movie-making. *She* (Saturday, C4, 2pm). Stylish and effective 1935 version of the Rider Haggard story, more persuasive than the later remake. *Dr Cyclops* (Saturday, C4, 3.45). Mad-scientist farago directed by Ernest Schoedsack (co-maker of *King Kong*; curiosity value. *Moonfleet* (Sunday, BBC-1, 3pm). Beautifully stylish Gothic melodrama directed in Cinemascope by Fritz Lang in 1955. *You're a Big Boy Now* (Tuesday, BBC-2, 9pm). Zany 1967 comedy by Francis Coppola, which may have dated to interesting effect. *Western Union* (Wednesday, BBC-2, 5.30). More Fritz Lang: a bold authoritative and underrated western in splendid Technicolor (1941).

New on video

CVC releases include Hitchcock's *The Man Who Knew Too Much*, DeMille's *Samson and Delilah*, Burt Kennedy's *The Deserter*, and hitherto

not shown here, Michael Mann's *The Keep*.

Special interest

TWO Guardian Lectures are being held this weekend at the National Film Theatre on Saturday evening, animator Richard Williams is the guest, and he is followed on Sunday afternoon by no less than Charlton Heston. Elsewhere in the NPT programme, the season of movies originally celebrated in Cahiers du Cinema includes *Rays Bitter Victory* (Saturday) and Mann's *The Man From Laramie* (Tuesday), while the Warren Beatty season takes in *Bonnie and Clyde* (Sunday) and Stevens' *The Only Game in Town* (Tuesday).

The Scala, Kings Cross, shows Fritz Lang's *M* and Charles Laughton's *Night Of The Hunter*, on Tuesday. At the Ritzy, Brixton, where the Killing Fields continues until April 20, the Sunday matinee is Bertolucci's 1990.

Outside London, David Hare's *Wetherby* can be seen next week at Bradford Film Theatre, where the Monday performance will be attended

by producer Simon Relp and actress Joely Richardson, and from tonight at the Watershed, Bristol, where Judi Dench will appear at tomorrow's performance.

At the Tivoli, Eastbourne, two notable silent films can be seen with live piano accompaniment, Murnau's *Susanne* tomorrow and Hitchcock's *The Ring* on Saturday. Chapter, Cardiff, shows a selection of Looney Tunes cartoons until Saturday, and the Ealing Dead Of Night is an appropriate late-night showing tomorrow and Saturday. Nottingham Film Theatre has James Ivory's *The Bostonians* from tomorrow to Sunday, and the Sunday matinee is Teshigahara's *The Face Of Another*. The Arts, Cambridge, shows Alex Cox's *Repo Man* until April 20.

The Tyneside Cinema, Newcastle, has a four-part screening of the 16-hour German epic *Heimat*, beginning on Saturday, and continuing on Sunday and the subsequent weekend.

Tim Palleine

AFTER A QUESTION OF SILENCE A CONTROVERSIAL NEW FILM BY MARLEEN GORRIS

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Stalemate in the staffrooms

The sea air proved bracing this Easter-tide. But not too bracing. Specifically it left assorted teachers' unions bracing themselves for a significant, though strictly controlled, escalation of their pay dispute. Even so, more schools are to be hit, longer and harder than they have been over the past couple of months. If the words of Mr Fred Jarvis, general secretary of the largest union, the NUT, are any guide, then examination classes will no longer be exempt. Teacher may, of course, invigilate, collect papers and, where appropriate, mark them. But if, in the crucial run-up to examination day, shepherds are called upon to abandon their flocks to freelance revision at home or on the street corner: so be it.

Compare and contrast this. Schoolmasters and Women Teachers who pounce briefly into the same examination abyss and then backed away. A judgment which measures their sense of responsibility and the cool realities of power rather than any lack of anger. Even so, taking a leaf out of Scotland's book, schools in the constituencies of appropriate Tory ministers and backbenchers will come in for a caning. (Watch it, Finchley.) So will schools in selected Conservative county councils. (Watch it, Hampshire, where the verbally aggressive education committee chairman also leads the management team on Burnham.)

All of which is a curate's egg. Set aside the obvious dicing with the futures of children as varied as those determined to make it to Oxbridge and those struggling against the odds to scrape together a handful of CSEs. The tactical gamble is over public perceptions. Will suburban mothers, forced either to cancel jobs or to allow their youngsters to run wild three days a week, happily make their marks for the local Alliance or Labour candidates in protest at Sir Keith's intransigence? Will *Homo Finchleyensis* blame the Prime Minister and her acolytes for endangering young Charles' "A" levels, just as middle class fathers raised merry hell for the Tories when university grants came under egalitarian threat? Or will they shrug their shoulders, decide that long haired, badge wearing pedagogues and Sir Keith deserve each other and, the best thing to do on balance is to cast an increasingly fed-up vote in some anti-Conservative direction?

To ask such questions is to underline the simple fact that teachers are not on to an obvious winner. They could yet lose the significant public support they have built up. Even if it is retained, they could still be "seen off" just as the miners were. But seeing off teachers at the expense of their pupils is no answer to the increasingly urgent answer to the problems both of teachers' pay or of educational funding. It is easy — and correct — to say that all teachers are underpaid but some teachers are more underpaid than others and that the biggest problems are some way up the scale. Easy, too, to smile at the remarks of the shadow Education spokesman, Mr Giles Radice, who said, in effect, that Labour would conduct a thumping great enquiry into teachers' pay — and then stagger the results!

Yet it is in Radice's land that the solution to this sorry dispute lies and it is only the Education Secretary who can take the initiative. Otherwise the dispute, broken backed, perhaps, is going to run and run and there will be precious little glory in a drag out victory for government. There is still time for Sir Keith to offer a procedure and a package which provides significant improvement up and down the scale in return for movement on new contracts and in-service assessment. And, after this week's votes, the reasons why he should move are reasons of common sense and compassionate management.

Cream at the top

Teachers are being held to 4 per cent: civil servants have been offered 4.4 per cent: the Government has made no secret of its desire to abolish the wages councils in order to make low pay even lower. Meanwhile, life at the top is much more bearable. Already this week has brought news of a £93,000 rise for 39-year-old Mr Michael Ashcroft who runs, among other things, Dolphin Showers and Alpine — at a double glazed salary. It was also revealed that Sir Francis Tums, chairman of Turner and Newall, has collected a £180,000 bonus for passing Go. This is merely the latest run of the executive gravy train whose passengers in recent weeks have included the chairman of ICI (up 68 per cent to £287,261) and the chairman of BP (up 32 per cent to £241,547) plus quite phenomenal increases for freshly de-nationalised boards, instant proof that privatisation pays.

Such increases come on top of the sharp reductions in the higher rates of

taxation introduced by the 1979/83 Conservative government, giving higher earners an unprecedented increase in take-home pay as part of a policy to restore incentives. Many of the recent increases are related to the 1984 Finance Act which exempted employee option schemes that had earned Revenue approval from income tax. Others are related to the performance of profits.

The gearing of income to profits sounds good in theory. If the right person is appointed the company can gain enormously. But in practice it often means that top pay goes up for quite fortuitous reasons like currency fluctuations, cyclical movements in the economy and sudden scarcities of commodities. In cases where profit-related bonuses are a high proportion of income they could add pressure for the wrong sort of decision — that which maximises short term profitability rather than something (like a new capital investment) where the eventual payoff would be beyond the horizons of current remuneration.

There seems two particular lessons. First, if there is an argument that people do better if their pay is linked to the fortunes of the company, then it applies right down the line from directors to office cleaners. Profit sharing was never intended as a means of featherbedding directors.

Second, if British directors need a single quality it is leadership. And leaders don't preach one thing and practise another. If there is a national need to prevent wage increases from starting another inflationary spiral, then it is outrageous for directors to be saying this on the back of monstrously big — and often unearned — increases in their own pay. The message from the boardroom should be simple; the bucks stop — or at least slow down — here.

The French dislocation

The French Government's well-telegraphed decision to introduce proportional representation in time for next year's parliamentary election has taken even less time to backfire than the most convinced sceptics predicted. Designed to prevent the opposition of the right from winning an absolute majority in the National Assembly (at least without the shame of an alliance with the neo-Fascist National Front), its first and most spectacular effect has been to split the ruling Socialist Party. The most dramatic early consequence was the abrupt and unexpected resignation from the Cabinet of Mr Michel Rocard, the highly popular and widely respected Minister of Agri-

culture and leader of the Socialist right. The abandoned parliamentary voting system was based on simple majorities in each constituency, as in Britain, with the added refinement of the second round in any seat where nobody got an absolute majority in the first. This enabled the French to vote with their hearts in the first round and with their heads in the second when they could see which way the wind was blowing. This rule imposed a two-bloc (as distinct from a two-party) system on a country previously renowned for its plethora of small parties, and has undoubtedly been one of the two main stabilising factors in the Fifth Republic set up by the Gaullists in 1958 (the other being the powerful executive presidency).

In future the French will cast just the one vote for the party list of their choice in whichever of the 96 Departments they inhabit. For the candidate this means their chance of election depends on the picking-order in the list which will be decided by party leaders, not the voters. By effectively turning the Departments into multi-member constituencies, rather than treating the entire country as a single constituency ("pure" PR), the new system will still favour the larger parties at the expense of the smaller, including the National Front and probably the Communists. At the same time it will prevent any single party from getting an absolute majority, as the Socialists' treachery did in 1981 but long since abandoned hope of repeating.

The French have had PR before, but not under the Fifth Republic, which is special in having a presidency more dominant already than any democratic premier-ship. The change marks a significant shift in the balance of power towards the presidency because future parliamentary majorities will be looser and weaker coalitions. Briefly and crudely put, the people will be somewhat more fairly represented in an assembly with even less capacity to restrain a president directly elected for a fixed term with the power of dissolution. All this is to enable the socialists to hang on to power provided only (and this is a large if) they remain the largest party next year so they can choose coalition partners. If the twin props of strong presidency and stable parliament could not avert a 1983, the implications for 1988 or some other not too distant year for a Fifth Republic balanced on the single prop of an overweening presidency are clearly fraught with high risk.

Going to pot?

The inventors of snooker must have had television in mind, just as the Morte d'Arthur was intended for radio and E. M.

Forster wrote for the wide screen and Dolby Sound. Without television, snooker would probably have languished and died with its elderly exponents in the decrepit billiards halls of Northern England, or given way to the more primitive and meretricious pool. Snooker itself was considered a less refined and skilful use of the table than billiards until Walter Lindrum and Joe Davis (no relation) perfected the nursery cannon which, offering effortless and limitless breaks, took away the glamour as well as the point of the game. (Tom Reece left unfinished a break of 499,135, but it didn't count anyway because the judges were not always there to watch.) In its revived form, snooker is a game of high skill, good manners, and big money played by gentlemen with waistcoats and by Alex Higgins without. The referee habitually wears white gloves and the solemnity of a butler. But in spite of its enormous audience and the household familiarity of the players' names, snooker still ranks merely as a game rather than a sport. That can be the only reason why the organisers have decided to bring in drug tests. Now that all competitors, starting in Sheffield tomorrow, have to be checked for anabolic steroids, snooker is at last raised to parity with the decaathlon.

Two drugs are still allowed. Without tobacco the tournament would be short of a wealthy sponsor and Mr Higgins might not have made the championship. Without alcohol the game would be torn from its natural habitat and Bill Werbeniuk would go in off the pink every time. It is the unacceptable drugs the organisers say they are after, but the question must be asked what conceivable advantage they are deemed to confer. How is potting ability affected by availability of pot? Could a quaking heroin addict manoeuvre the long rest, let alone score with its aid? Would not LSD alter the colours of the balls? Maybe there are new and more subtle drugs being pushed in the saloons which enhance visual perception and leave no other trace, but if so we have yet to hear of them and they ought, in any case, to be issued free to airline pilots and taxi drivers. In trying to uplift their game to Olympic status the organisers are in fact doing it a serious disservice. The suggestion, however remote, that the wonderful positioning we expect from Steve Davis, Terry Griffiths, Willy Thorne, Tony Knowles and the rest is not a skill forged in the Crucible but an illusion chemically induced in one at which a nation of spectators will instinctively balk.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A broad muddle in the middle holds no threat for Thatcher

Sir, — What was fascinating about Eric Hobsbawm's argument (Agenda, April 8) in favour of a broad alliance against Thatcher was the great, gaping hole in the middle. Around which policies and strategies is Hobsbawm's alliance to be built? Is the alliance to be based simply on hostility to Thatcher? If so, the alliance might soon fall apart under the weight of unanswered questions. Where would the broad alliance stand on major current issues? Would it urge a "freeze" on nuclear weapons, or seek their immediate abandonment? Would it stress that local councils should pass on Government-inspired cuts in services, or would it actively support those councillors engaged in outright resistance to cuts? Would the alliance help to organise industrial action to oppose all job losses, or would it merely protest at rising unemployment and await a change of Government? In place of a constructive agenda, Mr Hobsbawm chooses to emphasise two themes. First, a rebuttal of the Socialist Left, conducted in that hoary old debating technique of ascribing a few misleading assumptions to your opponents and then knocking them down. Secondly, there is a heavy



hint that the components of the alliance are to be found among Oxford dons and members of the House of Lords. Even Churchill has been recalled to underscore the value of what used to be called "popular fronts". Secure this may be, but it is also a revealing clue to the roots of Mr Hobsbawm's perspectives. We forget, perhaps, that in early 1945 several of Mr Hobsbawm's more prominent comrades were actually cutting for the continuation of Churchill's "National Government" (or "broad alliance"), and were denouncing as extremist those who sensed the chance for a huge Labour election victory. So, there is nothing very new about Eric Hobsbawm's ideas. Unfortunately, he is trapped in a defeatist politics that on occasion produces pretty odd conclusions. Eric Hobsbawm may see "treachery" existing socialism in Eastern Europe, but the "really existing" fact remains that regimes that he has backed throughout his political life stepped up their exports of oil and coal to Western Europe, and the recent miners' strike. If therein rests Mr Hobsbawm's definition of socialism then doubtless many people would note his view that socialism is a remote possibility in Britain

It is to the developing sea-change that Mr Hobsbawm should address himself. If he wants credibility then he and those who echo his views will have to demonstrate by actions and clear statements of policies just where they now stand. — Yours faithfully, (Cliff) Nigel Todd, 2 Burnside, Spital Tongues, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

Sir, — In his Agenda article, Prof Hobsbawm seems to seriously underestimate the constraints under which Her Majesty's Government must operate. The Prime Minister's radical policies are not some caprice but a necessity, as she has repeatedly stated "there is no alternative" other than allowing Britain to slide into state socialism and eventual communist tyranny. This was clear to the mass of the Conservative Party and the largest portion of the electorate. It should be equally clear to those of us who were rather looking forward to Communist tyranny and the end of civilisation as we have known it. Consider what she took over, an economy where the rate of industrial profit had fallen from around 15 per cent in the fifties to around 5 per cent by the late Seventies, an economy where eco-

How electoral reform would moderate the monetarists

Sir, — PR might change cold-hearted Tories (Letters, April 9). Historical experience shows that the majority of Englishmen are by temperament moderate conservatives, unless some national outrage temporarily stirs them up to radical thoughts. Therefore a "fair" system of voting is inherently likely to produce a succession of moderate governments. It is in general easier to give cohesion to a party of conservatives, who wish the present system to continue, but with minor adjustment, than to a party of radical reformers who are impatient for a centrally planned one, or a determined struggle to reestablish a free market system. It is a measure of Thatcher's greatness that she saw this when Labour leaders with the exception of Benn still thought it possible to muddle through with fudge and muddle. And it is a measure of her success in breaking the unions and restoring industrial profitability that she has created room for the revival of the politics of conciliation under Kinnock. A modest enough revival indeed, Labour now talks of reducing unemployment from four million to maybe three million over three years, but at least enough to let the Professor and his communist party off the hook of having to fight for the other alternative. — Yours faithfully, Patrick Blackstock, Glasgow.

Mrs Thatcher would then presumably on some convenient occasion go to the Lords and a moderate Conservative administration be formed. The Conservatives might then count it prudent to bring in electoral reform, part of the deal being a reduction of the over-representation of anti-Conservative Scotland, and a stronger con-

When one sex is not to blame

Sir, — Ms Apple's comment (Letters, April 8) is the kind of anti-male statement which is not going to get us anywhere. Female cancer is not more caused by men than isemophilia or colour-blindness are caused by women: men may or may not be the unwitting carriers of the disease. As a feminist myself I strongly object to such muddled-headed thought parading as feminism. If the movement is to succeed in its aim it must recognise that to blame one sex for all human ills is antagonistic and wrong. If the cause is to serve all women (and ultimately all people) it must recognise that many women want to be feminists and to admit that they love and respect the men around them. — Catherine Feeny, Oxford.

Sir, — Both Olenka Frankel (April 9) and Dr James (April 2) are right to say that barrier contraceptives protect against cervical cancer. But the excess cervical cancer risk in pill users is not merely by the absence of a barrier. Women do use the pill for three or more have a higher risk than STD users, even after allowing for other differences between the two groups. The longer women use the pill, the higher the risk becomes, and this "dose response relationship" is further evidence against the pill. Since vaccine also get cer-

Rent rise

Sir, — Tim Daniel (Letters, April 3) knows perfectly well that the figures — I quoted for council rent increases referred to average rents (as did your editor). To point to a specific council's higher than average rent increase and claim "so much for Ashton's assertion that rents are not going up higher than inflation" is as dishonest as referring to a lower than average increase and arguing that I have understated the case. As to whether or not I feel there is — or should be — a widely held belief that owner occupiers are subsidised, I should have thought that since over half the households in the country are home owners who are receiving, mortgage interest relief, any comment from me would be superfluous. However, the figure of £2.5 billion in capital gains exemption is a highly speculative one which requires justification. — Yours faithfully, Paul Ashton, The University of Liverpool, Liverpool.

Hymn to life

Sir, Christopher Driver, writing a contemporary Christian song (Guardian, April 6) refers to "the late Sydney Carter". From the context I think he must mean me: so may I assure him that I am still living, at Herne Hill? — Yours faithfully, Sydney Carter, London SE24.

Miscellany at large on our malaise in Malaysia

Sir, — The sight of Mrs Thatcher reassuring Malaysia and Singapore that her "family" of workers is now emerging from a dark, a familiar note, but it took me a while to work out where I'd heard it before. Ah, yes: it is the voice of the petty despot of a barely emerging nation as trying to encourage investment by the multinationals and entrepreneurs of mature industrial nations. "Come and invest, your horizons are safe with us: our workforce is docile, low-paid, and ununionised." — Eric Van Tassel, Cambridge.

Sir, — My Easter break was enlivened by the sight of Margaret (I'm a parent too) Thatcher suitably speaking down to the dignitaries of Kuala Lumpur. Throwing light on her style of leadership, she patiently explained that responsible parents do not simply give their children everything they ask for. A revealing little analogy. However, one question remains. Does the great mother figure see the whole, British public as infantile, or merely the Cabinet? — Yours faithfully, Tom Kilecraus, 90 Townhead Road, Dore, Sheffield.

Sir, — George Michael and Andrew Ridgeley, of Wham! may well have been disappointed to learn that the

The slow greening of Europe

Sir, — Martin Stott (Letters, March 28) raises some interesting points about the relationship between the Ecology Party and the "wider green movement" in the UK. Fertile ground for debate and no doubt the lists will be joined enthusiastically from all sides. The discussion ground already rings to the sound of those heaving themselves aboard the Green bawaggon. However, for such discussions to be fruitful factual accuracy should be the watchword from all participants. Unfortunately, Mr Stott falls at this first hurdle by claiming that "... it is quite true that the Ecology Party has got nowhere near the 5 per cent hurdle in elections..." Not true. In the last European Election our highest vote was 4.7 per cent, in last May's local elections the three highest percentage votes were 37.6 per cent, 36.9 per cent and 35.5 per cent and out of 106 results 50 were over 5 per cent. Even in the last General Election (where the lack of PR is felt most acutely) our best vote was 2.9 per cent — Tony Jones, Ecology Party, London SW 9.

Why the mud doesn't stick

Sir, — Scene: Peace Corner, USA. Moleworth, Easter Monday. We had just tramped around the base, part of a line that was still setting off when its head reached the end, and like everyone else we were plastered to the knees with the thick, sticky mud stirred up by the thousands of feet that had gone before us. We were queuing for a well-earned cup of tea when Lady Olga Maitland appeared to cheer up her supporters (all six of them) by telling them that she knew CND's turnout was a bare 5,000 — she had seen for herself. Her boots, like the rest of course we all know she can walk on water, but that Moleworth mud? Evidently their special counting system is not the CPS's only discovery! — Anthony Gilbert, West Slaitwaite.

Handwritten note: 150

FUTURES

MICRO GUARDIAN-PLUS THE WORLD OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Thursday April 11 1985 15

THE brightest stars in the southern hemisphere are visible long before the sun has set. On a clear evening from the top of a mountain in Siding Spring, New South Wales, you can see 50 miles away across the sky. The identical twin is 11,500 miles and 180 degrees of arc away across the globe at the Royal Greenwich Observatory, Al Siding Spring station. It is operated by Robert McNaught and a team of astronomers. A coincidence of names so improbable that it almost outweighs the chance of a Close Encounter.

The two men are not star gazers but satellite trackers stationed there for twelve months from Aston University's Earth Satellite Research Unit. They form part of an international community of observers who collectively monitor the orbits of artificial satellites circling the earth — not just broadcasting satellites but any old bits of junk: rocket casings, broken off solar panels, fuel pods and Vaseline bottles. In fact, the more useless and inanimate the better since junk is less prone to releases of compressed gas or unburnt fuel. This means that the principal distinction in what would otherwise be perfectly elliptical orbits are due to variations in the Earth's gravity field.

The Earth's gravity which is being studied. Even though the observers are turning their eyes upwards to space they are really concerned with earthbound forces beneath their feet. Pete Marsh, who is passing over a bump in the gravity field, the result of a departure in the Earth's shape from a notional perfect sphere. He is watching satellites through many revolutions, maps of the Earth's sea-level surface can be built up for use in oceanography and geophysics. Knowledge of the Earth's shape and dimensions is fundamental to understanding the driving forces of the ocean and the structure of the Earth's mantle.

The use of satellite data to advance this knowledge represents the latest chapter in

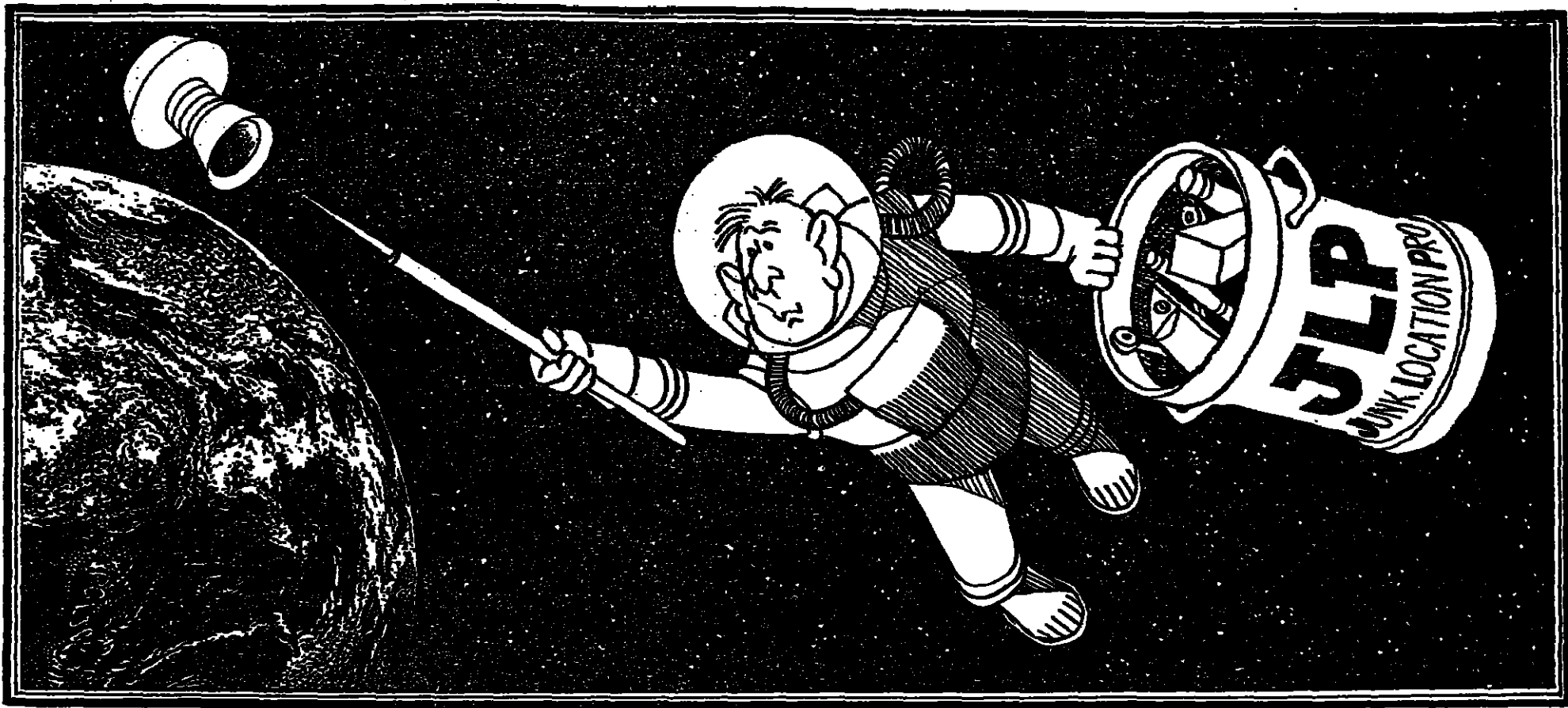


Illustration by Peter Clarke

If you maintain a close watch on orbiting satellites you can learn a great deal about the earth's gravity. You could also learn how to protect a space station, writes Nick Rufford

Keeping an eye on the celestial junkyard

the long standing history of geodesy, the science of determining the shape and size of the Earth.

In the third century BC, Eratosthenes (the father of geodesy and a great friend of Archimedes) made the first significant attempt to measure the Earth's circumference. His calculation was based on the angular difference in the position of the sun's highest point at two different cities. He worked out the distance between the two cities from the length of time it took to make the journey on camel. Converting degrees of arc into units of distance he got a result which was accurate to within 1,000 kilometres (2.5%).

The quest to describe the Earth's form continued

through to the 17th century but got temporarily stuck on an obsession with the flattening coefficient — a measure of the extent to which the Earth is higher round the equator than round the poles. Newton argued with his usual compelling logic that there must be a bulge at the equator exerting sufficient extra gravity to compensate for the centrifugal effect of the Earth's rotation.

However, a French father and son team, the Cassinis, produced complicated empirical evidence to challenge Newton's estimate of the flattening coefficient of 230⁻¹. Their measurements of arc length established that the Earth was not flattened at all but clearly egg shaped with a negative coefficient.

Theory versus empiricism spilled over into nationalistic pride. The French Academy of Sciences dispatched expeditions to endure frost-bite in Lapland and mosquitoes in Peru to bring back the true answer and silence Newton. But even the survivors could not agree. The Lapland team estimated the coefficient as 178⁻¹. The Peruvian party, nervous about committing themselves but determined to come up with something original, put it between 178⁻¹ and 286⁻¹.

In fact Newton's theory was right, although he didn't take the Earth's density into account and erred on the high side as a result (the correct value is 298.25⁻¹). But this is far from the complete answer. The flattening at the poles

represents only one of a series of harmonics which describe the Earth's shape. The first harmonic is a perfect sphere, the second an ellipsoid, the third a triaxial or pear shape and so on, progressing by the number of "corners" which a shape possesses.

By superimposing harmonics one on another in different degrees any shape of Earth can be simulated.

Twenty years ago values for the first nine harmonics were firmly established. With the aid of satellite data and computer analysis, new refinements became possible. Today, more than 2000 years after Eratosthenes, the Goddard Earth Model 10C (GEM 10C for short) features 180

harmonics in both polar and equatorial planes.

There are of course, other less enchanting reasons for monitoring earth satellites. One is quite simply to keep an eye on everything moving in space and carefully log any new arrivals and make sure quickly that they are not ICBMs. Another is to assess the growing danger that a manned spacecraft could be struck by a piece of orbiting debris.

The worst consequences of such an incident, where debris punctured the pressurised crew module, could be loss of spacecraft and crew. There is particular concern for the United States \$8 billion space station planned for the 1990s. A specialist in orbital debris at the Johnson

Space Centre estimates that there is a good chance that the station will get hit by debris of 10 centimetres in size or larger at some point during its lifetime. Over a period of 100 years at least one such strike is a statistical certainty.

A precautionary measure currently being advocated is the launch of a debris monitoring satellite to act as an early warning station. The satellite would supplement terrestrial observations and warn when debris was accumulating to a dangerous level in high orbits before it filtered down to the level of the space station. This solution assumes of course that the satellite itself would not be hit by debris.

Research based on satellite data depends on international co-operation and a database maintained by observers from different parts of the globe. No centralised system can replace the network of small satellite monitoring teams and astronomers who keep track of the celestial merry-go-round of junk, twinkling among the stars.

early balloon satellite, Echo 2, collided with its own launch canister after only one orbit.

As satellite tracking systems become more sophisticated they tend to reveal more and more space junk. A total of 40,000 orbiting objects of diameter one centimetre or greater has been discovered with the latest US Air Force GEODSS telescope system. Most of the debris is caused by rocket booster stages self-destructing but a significant proportion is the result of the activities of killer satellites which manoeuvre alongside their targets and turn them into a much larger number of smaller satellites.

Debris may be a nuisance and some operational satellites may be downed by destructive but all of them provide useful reference points in space. Later this year a new US-European joint research programme, the Wegener Project, will use satellites with stable orbits as markers to study Continental drift.

Changes in the relative positions of the satellites caused by movements in the Earth's crust will be measured by mobile laser rangefinders stationed in tectonically active regions of the Eastern Mediterranean and South America. The lasers are sufficiently accurate (within 10 centimetres over the typical height of a satellite's orbit) to detect rates of Continental drift of only a few centimetres per annum. The project will provide useful information on earthquakes, assuming that it is not overtaken by a vogue for rationalisation.

Research based on satellite data depends on international co-operation and a database maintained by observers from different parts of the globe. No centralised system can replace the network of small satellite monitoring teams and astronomers who keep track of the celestial merry-go-round of junk, twinkling among the stars.

Satellite predictions supplied by Aston University's Earth Satellite Research Unit are given daily on the back page of the Guardian.

For a more detailed history of the search for the flattening coefficient see *Observing Earth Satellites* by Desmond King-Hele (Macmillan).

Dr Nick Rufford is at the Remote Sensing Unit, Civil Engineering Department, Aston University, Midland Environmental Ltd, Aston Science Park.

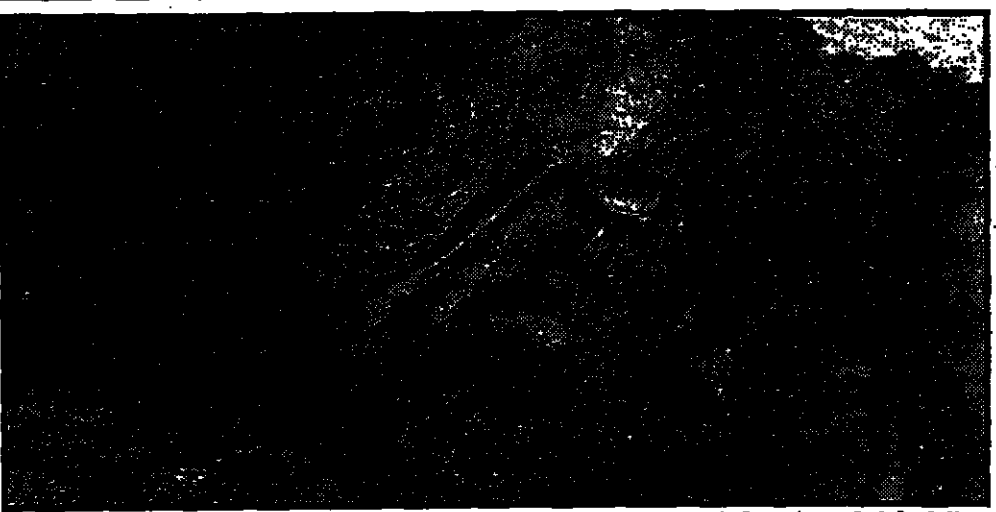
"PETE MARSH", the iron-age man pickled in a peat-bog near Wiltshire, Cheshire, briefly hit the headlines when he was fished out last summer. Under his official new name, Lindow Man, he has since been busy at the British Museum as an archaeologist and scientist exploit their first chance to examine the flesh, as well as the bones, of a prehistoric Briton.

More than 700 bog-bodies have been found in north-west Europe, especially in the 19th century, when peat-cutting was at its height. Most rot and were buried, though one found at Kiel in 1891 was preserved by smoking it like a kipper. The first record from Britain was a woman, perhaps a Viking, found in a bog in County Down in 1829. Pete Marsh is the only British find in modern times, and the first to receive scientific examination.

The priority, of course, is how to preserve him. Expert study of the peat sediments by Professor Frank Oldfield of Liverpool University has reconstructed the prehistoric environment. Lindow Man was tipped, around 550 BC, into an open pool within the peat-bog. Soon afterwards, a sphagnum moss "lawn" grew over him, embedding him in wet, acid and air-free conditions that prevented him decaying.

But as soon as he was disturbed by mechanical peat-cutting — about six months before he was discovered — those conditions were upset. Now he is kept at 4°C, the standard temperature for mortuaries, higher temperatures encourage bacterial growth, and lower temperatures might damage him by freezing.

Lindow man is not the first human relic from Wiltshire. A woman's head turned up there in May, 1983, so well preserved it included her left eye-ball and a yellowish-green substance that was the remains of her brain. The relic, made by the peat-mill workers, when they hosed down what they had



Lindow Man: wholefood diet?

His final meal was eaten in 550BC. Science has been able to identify what it was, reports Christopher Chippindale

Pete Marsh's last supper

thought was a burst football, had a bizarre outcome.

At the time, Macclesfield police were interviewing a man suspected of murdering his wife 20 years ago. Confronted with the head, the suspect confessed to the killing, and he was tried and convicted on the basis of the confession.

But, a radiocarbon determination gave a date for the head of 200 AD.

The bog-bodies discovered in Denmark during the 1980s were preserved by the best methods then available. Only the head of Tollund Man, found in 1950, was kept, preserved in alcohol, tinned and paraffin wax. Grauballe Man, a 3,800-year-old whole, using a piece of oak bark.

For Lindow Man British Museum conservator, Sheriff Omar will use freeze-drying to dry out the water directly from a frozen state. It is the standard technique for ancient leather shoes, but a body is a more complex object — its bones, muscle,

fatty tissue and skin all behave rather differently. Omar is now experimenting with different chemical preservatives and hopes to export Lindow Man to go on show next year.

The medics have been giving him the most modern treatment too. The minerals in the bone, the solid material that shows up on X-rays, were wasted by bog acids, so Lindow Man was also scanned with CT (computerised tomography) and NMR (nuclear magnetic resonance), before James Bourke, surgeon at Queen's Medical Centre, Nottingham, explored inside. The stomach and adjoining parts were intact, but otherwise the body was virtually empty — the capricious effect of its pickling in the peat.

Dr Iain West, forensic scientist at Guy's Hospital, has reconstructed the grimy way Lindow Man died. First he was fished with two blows with an axe, so hard they drove

pieces of skull deep into the cranium.

He was then garrotted: a sinew was knotted round his neck, a stick inserted to twist the sinew and the neck broken. Finally, his throat was slit by the larynx, perhaps cutting his jugular.

Danish bog-bodies had suffered the same way. Tollund Man was throttled with a rope noose. Grauballe Man had his throat cut almost from ear to ear.

Full scientific examination of Lindow Man will take some years: the vegetable contents of his stomach alone will provide work for a PhD. A further examination by Gordon Hillman, archaeobotanist at the London Institute of Archaeology, has already begun to tell that story.

The gut contents are a mixture of plant and animal foods. Hillman expected, from the Danish examples, a "famine food" — the characteristic mixture of tiny waste grains and weed seeds that is left over when grain is

cleaned and not usually eaten.

But Lindow Man had eaten better, a mixture of spelt-wheat and barley with just a few weed seeds of fat hen and dock. Chances are that the probably came from the fire over which this last meal was cooked.

The mixture, with its bran, fine chaff and husks, pretty well corresponds to modern wholefoods. But was it eaten as wholegrains or ground? Here, simple experiment of student volunteers has been helpful: you feed them on whole and on the table, and examine the difference in what comes out. The size of the bran fragments, especially, shows that Lindow Man ate ground grain, probably milled with a saddle quern and not much coarser than modern wholemeal bread.

The next question is how was it cooked — as a bread or a porridge. Though different in the kitchen and on the table, they are physically much the same when they reach the stomach. But Hillman has spotted minute charred fragments in the faeces. In a millimetre long — with tiny fragments of chaff embedded in them. These would come from a burnt crust, and suggests to him bread.

For a final answer Hillman is sending samples to Dr Keith Sales, of Queen Mary College chemistry department, who has developed a new method, using ESR (electron spin resonance) to deduce paleotemperatures — that is, the highest temperature at which a material has been exposed in its past history; particular temperatures leave distinct traces in the electron structure.

The gut contents are 5,000 years old, from King Zoser's pyramid in Egypt had once been heated to nearly 100°C, which probably corresponds to the heat of a blazing fire in full African sun. For older charred grain from Syria the value was a fire temperature of 300°C. A figure around 100°C for Lindow Man would mean porridge, towards 250°C or higher would mean bread.

IT is quite extraordinary that a Government seemingly obsessed with its rigid monetary policies should fail to apply these same policies to energy conservation. The message ringing out from Tories on high, is that investment should follow market pressures and therefore go where the returns are best.

The same message is ringing out from the White House and you might therefore expect some grand similarities between the US and British patterns of utility investment. Indeed there are grand differences, and they arise largely from the fact that while, in the US, the monetarist principle is being applied by the utilities themselves, in Britain the principle is not being applied at all.

This inconsistency was recently highlighted in evidence to the Select Committee on Energy given by Andrew Warren, director of the Association for the Conservation of Energy. Although the topic under investigation was the United Kingdom Gas Depletion Policy (which to anyone sensitive to resource issues seems to be standing the real problems on their heads), the evidence relates to general differences in the way that energy finance in the US and Britain.

The Department of Energy, in its 1983 paper prepared for the Sizewell inquiry, but making the position abundantly clear in its latest power supply forecasts. The energy conservation programmes cannot have a significant effect on the rate of investment in gas supply — but nevertheless relegates conservation to a category quite distinct from that assigned to the investment needed to meet rising demand and replacement of old plant.

This contrasts dramatically with the views of the major utilities in the United States. Pacific Gas and Electric, for example, examining the

ENERGETICS by Anthony Tucker

Power politics

potential return on their investment in customer conservation, say flatly that "it is simply more cost effective to continue serving customers with existing energy supplies".

The investment implication of this is made clear by the US Northwest Conservation and Power plan which says that, in its analysis, conservation is treated as a resource, as an additional supply of energy rather than a reduction in demand forecast. In its simplest form this means that a kilowatt hour saved is the equivalent of a kilowatt hour of new supply, and a kilowatt saved from the demand of the supply area is the equivalent of a kilowatt added to the power supply system.

The Tennessee Valley Authority, the largest publicly-owned electricity supply authority in the US, makes the position abundantly clear in its latest power supply forecasts. The energy conservation programmes cannot have a significant effect on the rate of investment in gas supply — but nevertheless relegates conservation to a category quite distinct from that assigned to the investment needed to meet rising demand and replacement of old plant.

This contrasts dramatically with the views of the major utilities in the United States. Pacific Gas and Electric, for example, examining the

trolled conservation schemes, already saving about 400 Megawatts of peak demand, will reach the planned target of 3,000 to 4,000 MW by the end of the century. "Conservation programmes will add 3,000 to 4,000 MW to our capacity," says the authority. Quite apart from providing the framework and encouragement of the new industry needed for a sustained energy conservation programme, TVA will meet its demand target at a cost that is predictable and lower than through conventional and now outdated financial techniques.

Even more progressive is the Federally-owned Bonneville Power Administration, which is investigating the soundness and flexibility of investment options relating to demand forecasts, said flatly that the "most cost-effective resource is conservation". But Bonneville has approached its application of conservation measures in a way that is socially sensitive. In general consumers pay about 15 per cent of the overall cost of improvements, a financial arrangement that commercial organisations have been eager to accept. Even so Bonneville has found it far cheaper to invest in energy saving than in plant to expand output.

One major reason for the broad and enlightened approach to the conservation of power there of Public Utility Commissions, whose role is to consider and approve the investment decisions of the public utilities. Utilities are required to consider conservation as an alternative — a properly costed alternative — to investment in new supply. No such requirement exists in the UK. The alternative accounting and investment assessment rests on the British monopolies. From a Tory and from a conservation point of view, the situation is intolerable. How is it that this Government keeps failing to get its own message?

Association for the Conservation of Energy: Evidence to the Select Committee on Energy, 1985

Pluto comes in from the back of beyond

PLUTO, the remote and mysterious planet named after the god of the underworld, is giving up the darkness and moves out of the darkness and towards the Sun. In the past few weeks Pluto has begun a series of eclipses with its moon which promises to answer some of the outstanding questions about this controversial world. In view of recent findings, some astronomers doubt whether Pluto deserves to be regarded as a true planet at all.

Pluto was discovered in 1930, 12 years too late to be included in the list of planets. It showed up as a slow-moving, star-like point on photographs taken by Clyde Tombaugh at Lowell Observatory, Arizona, as part of a deliberate search for a 24-year-old farmer's son, was a keen amateur astronomer who had been hired by the observatory for the planet search because

they could not afford a qualified astronomer. His discovery climaxed 10 months of searching and ensured him a place in history.

But Pluto was a disappointment. Faint and small, it was not the imposing body like Neptune that astronomers had expected. What's more, its 250-year orbit was unlike that of any other planet, actually crossing inside the path of Neptune at times, as it did in January 1979. Pluto remains closer to the Sun than Neptune until March 1996. Never has it been better placed for observation.

How did Pluto come to have such a strange orbit? Professor Raymond Taitelton of Cambridge University proposed in 1936 that Pluto might actually be a former satellite of Neptune that was ejected after a near-miss with Neptune's largest moon, Triton. The encounter also reversed the motion of Triton, which now circles Neptune in

a retrograde (east-to-west) direction.

Taitelton's theory was widely accepted until a few years ago, when our ideas about Pluto underwent a radical change.

First, new observations in 1978 revised the estimated diameter of Pluto downwards to about 1,500 miles, half the size previously quoted, smaller even than our own Moon. Pluto is thus the smallest planet in the solar system.

Since it is so small, and its orbit so unusual, some astronomers have suggested that Pluto should be reclassified as an asteroid. At present, though, it is still regarded as a bona fide planet.

Then in 1978 Dr James Christy at the U.S. Naval Observatory in Washington discovered that Pluto has a moon of its own. This moon showed up as a slight elongation of the image of Pluto on photographs taken to measure the planet's position.

Christy named the moon Charon, after the mythological boatman who ferried souls across the river Styx into Pluto's domain. Charon is so close to Pluto, about 10,000 miles from its surface, that it had been missed by all previous investigators.

Charon is remarkable in many ways. It orbits Pluto every 6.4 days, the same time that the planet takes to spin on its axis, so that it must hang fixed over one point on Pluto's equator like a geostationary satellite. And with a diameter 40 per cent that of Pluto, Charon is larger in proportion to its parent planet than any other moon in the solar system.

From details of Charon's orbit around Pluto, astronomers made the first accurate calculations of Pluto's mass. It turned out to be disappointingly small. Pluto is 450 times less massive than the Earth, or 18 per cent the mass of our Moon. The densities

Ian Ridpath on the revelations of a minor planet

calculated for Pluto and Charon are similar to that of water, showing them to be snowballs.

Lytelton's theory of the origin of Pluto had to be rejected, because Pluto's true mass is too small to reverse the orbital motion of Triton, which is actually larger and heavier than Pluto. Last year, William McKinnon of Washington University, proposed an alternative theory, in which Pluto and Triton both originated as independent bodies orbiting the Sun. Triton was captured after a close approach to Neptune, but Pluto remained free. Had Triton not been captured, our solar system would have ten planets.

Shortly after the discovery of Pluto's moon, astronomers realised that the plane of its orbit would soon swing into line with the Earth, giving rise to a series of eclipses between Pluto and Charon.

On February 17 this year, the first eclipse was detected, at McDonald Observatory in Texas.

Recently only the edges of Pluto and Charon are being eclipsed, but the eclipses will gradually become total. The series of eclipses is expected to last five years.

Astronomers at McDonald Observatory, Palomar Observatory and Hawaii are monitoring the changes in light during the eclipse to find the exact sizes and shapes of Pluto and Charon. The two bodies may turn out to be irregularly shaped like many asteroids. The astronomers also hope to produce a map of Pluto showing bright and dark patches caused by methane frost on its surface.

No space probes are planned to Pluto for the foreseeable future, so this is the best opportunity to study this enigmatic world until it returns to the same part of its orbit 250 years from now.

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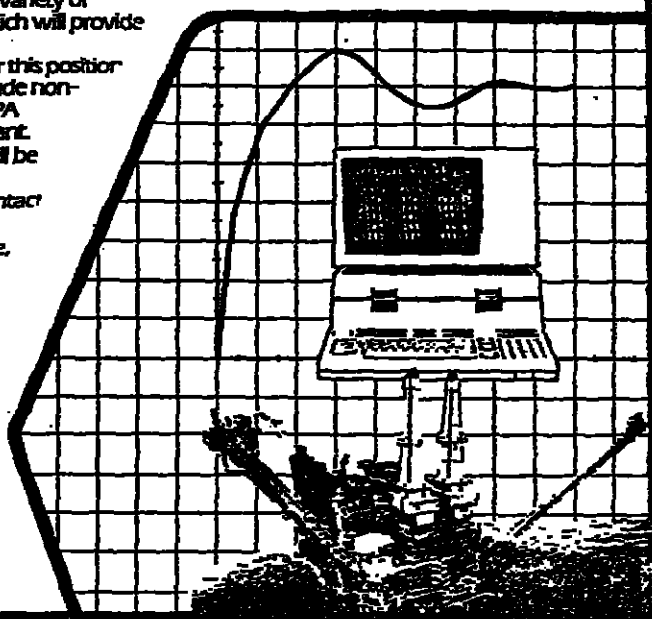
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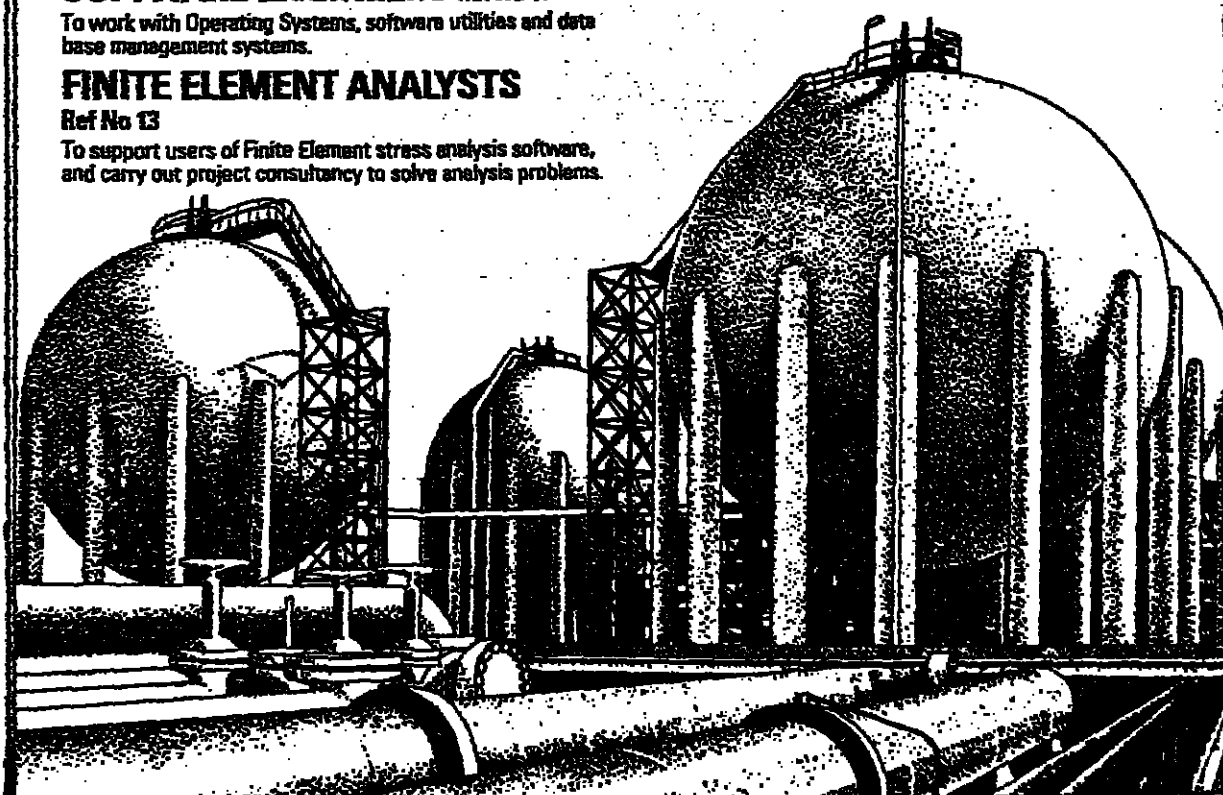
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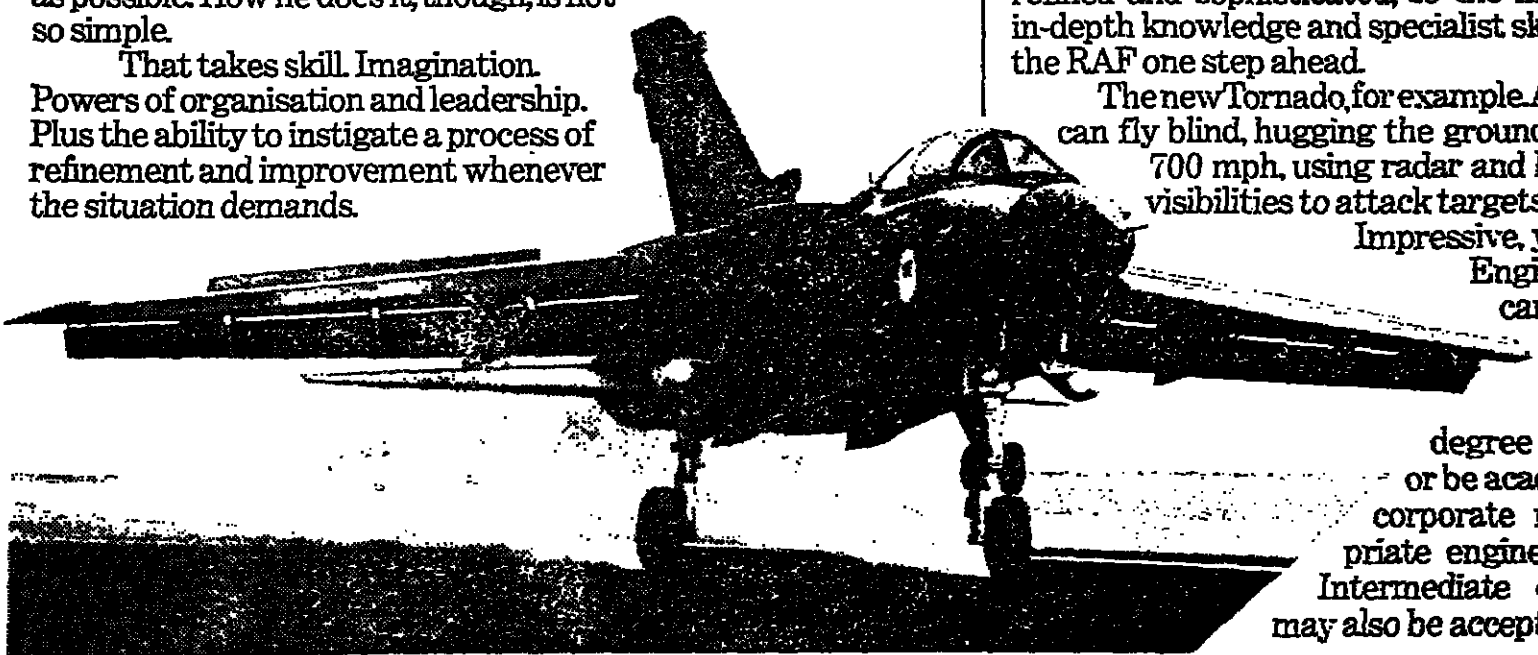
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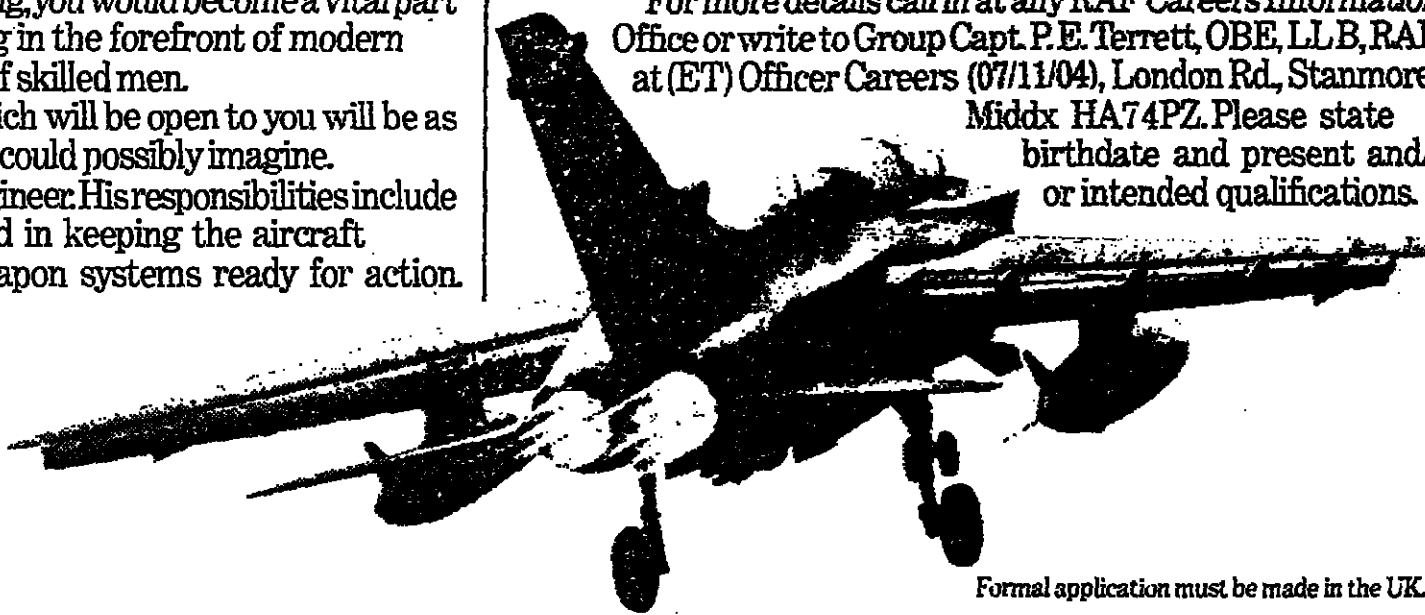
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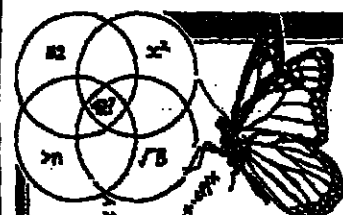


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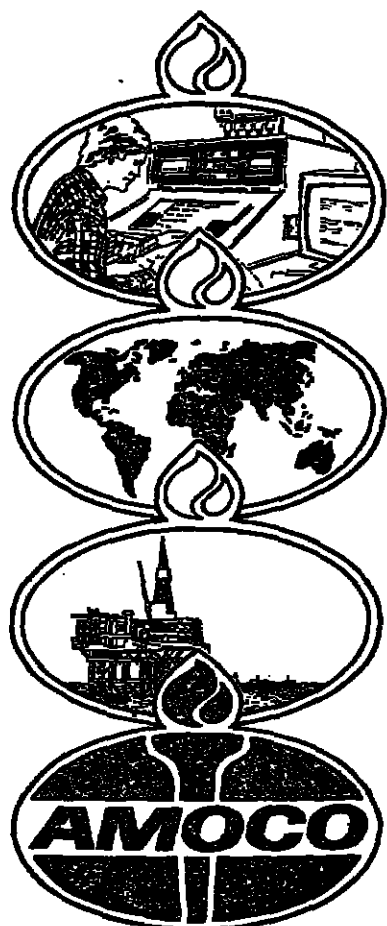
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I SUPPOSE you can't blame me for my friends. If you choose neck of the woods is level then there is one client in particular who would give— or at any rate time for a modest fee—your back teeth to represent. Private Eye. So, as I say, you can hardly blame me for my friends. These lush meadows engender a little professional jealousy from time to time.

Interlocutors in the story are Messrs Bindmans, the fashionable North London firm who have traditionally done most of Private Eye's work and Mr Oscar Beuselinck, a partner in the Soho firm of Wright, Webb, who is dealing with increasing quantities of Eye writs.

This does not please Mr Bindmans, who has written to Mr Beuselinck accusing him of nicking his client only a trifle more legally than a trifle more. Mr Beuselinck replied likening solicitors to cabs at a cab rank, with clients able to pick and choose between them.

Matters became especially heated when the prized Parkinson writ was delivered to Beuselinck rather than Bindmans. Bindmans has sought assurances from Richard Ingrams that he is still considered the main Private Eye solicitor. Mr Ingrams recently disclosed that half the profits from the magazine—which now sells around 250,000—go to lawyers. Considerable potatoes.

OH, the disappointment for those who had so eagerly awaited the publication of the end of last month of *Taxation of Land Development*, edited by Sheila Parrington. The £70 loose leaf book, published by Butterworths, was to have been the definitive work on Development Land Tax. And then Nigel Lawson went and abolished Development Land Tax in the budget. "We are left with a book that we are unable to sell," said a plaintive Butterworths spokesman yesterday. He added pluckily: "But we are hoping to be able to adapt it."

WITH characteristic modesty Mrs Thatcher tells *The Standard*: "I can't find jobs for everyone." No, but she has done her little bit. Max Harper from Stoke Prior—unemployed for two years—has just got a job as a child care assistant after writing to Mrs T about his plight. The appointment came via his local job centre, which had been contacted by Downing Street. Mr Harper now recommends that any jobless person goes straight to the top: "I would definitely advise people to take this approach, go straight to your local MP or the prime minister." She's away just now, but she's back soon.

THE Law Society, beset by a series of PR disasters in recent times, has appointed to replace their last PR director, who resigned in difficult circumstances. He is Mr Michael Ward, former Peterborough Labour MP and a non-solicitor. Mr Ward's career in the field began as a director of T. Don Smith (London) Ltd.

MR David Steel's voice can once more ring throughout the land. Ditto Mr David Owen. For some considerable time now their parliamentary performances have had the gloss taken off them by the miscellaneous grunts, chants and witticisms of Mr Dennis Skinner, who sits just in front of them and shares their microphone.

But now, after intense lobbying, the Select Committee on House of Commons Services has finally decided to install, for an experimental period, an extra row of microphones on both sides of the chamber to help reduce the level of background noise. The move will also come as a relief for Ted Heath, who has hitherto had his own pocket of tame hecklers sharing a mike.

LUTON'S growing reputation for the calibre of its football supporters will do nothing to assist Luton Council's bid to launch the town as an international tourist trap. Meetings have been held with both the English and Chiltern Tourist Boards and is chasing such grants as are available. The Council spokesman, Mr Reg Walker, said yesterday: "We have got to be realistic. Luton is never going to be a tourist's paradise. What we are saying is we want to take advantage of where we are situated." Mr Walker added: "We have our airport. Yes, and a football club."

Alan Rusbridger

The logic behind the Western rejection of Gorbachev's offer of a freeze may be the wrong logic, argues DAVID FAIRHALL

Why superiority doesn't really count

MRS THATCHER'S glib rejection of the Gorbachev offer to freeze nuclear missile deployments in Europe for six months while negotiations continue in Geneva is entirely understandable. It reflects the Prime Minister's usual style, which is to grasp at what she hopes is the essence of the problem and thereafter refuse to be distracted by the intrusion of a more complicated reality. It also reflects her rule of thumb where foreign policy issues are concerned — if in doubt follow the Reagan line.

In this instance both these instinctive reactions are unhelpful. For a start the essence of the European nuclear balance as she evidently perceives it is an extremely narrow one. She has focused on the particular category of weapons — new intermediate-range land based missiles — which happens to have attracted nearly all recent attention on both sides of the nuclear disarmament debate. That is the Soviet Union's mobile triple-headed SS-20 ballistic mis-

siles, being progressively deployed in Eastern Europe to replace obsolescent SS-4s and SS-5s, and on NATO's side the highly accurate American Pershing IIs in West Germany and the ground launched cruise missiles already at Greenham Common and coming to Molesworth in 1988.

The reason this particular equation has attracted so much attention is simple enough. Here is one category of nuclear weaponry in which the Americans really have fallen behind the Russians. The Pershing/cruise programme was devised by NATO in 1979, prompted largely by its West European members, to fill an obvious gap. When all 600 NATO missiles are deployed in 1988, and if the Russians go on retiring old missiles as their new ones come into service, a rough balance may be established in launchers if not in warheads (because the SS-20 has three independently controlled warheads on each launcher). But, meanwhile, the deployment has become both a public test of NATO's

political solidarity, with the Kremlin doing its best to tout things up, and a most convenient focus of anti-nuclear protest — as at Greenham and Molesworth.

To this extent one can understand Mrs Thatcher saying that the Gorbachev offer would merely freeze a Soviet superiority. According to NATO intelligence, more than 400 SS-20s have already been operationally deployed, whereas the NATO programme still has a long way to go. The Dutch Government will not decide on deployment until November — just after the freeze is supposed to end. But the Prime Minister's comment is still a dangerous oversimplification designed — if it was designed to do anything — merely to endorse the Pentagon's equally instantaneous reaction.

NATO's intermediate-range nuclear forces, though politically important, are only one segment of a vast array, from nuclear capable artillery and aircraft through to intercontinental missiles, in most categories of which the West is either superior, or

inferior to an extent which even the Pentagon's hardliners find acceptable. For instance NATO has just decided unilaterally to reduce its European stockpile of battlefield nuclear weapons from 6,000 to 4,900. Among the nuclear bombers, new British and German Tornados are joining the American F-111s to match the Soviet Backfires.

In addition there are several American systems which impact greatly on the European balance but have been almost accidentally excluded from public debate — the 400 Poseidon submarine launched warheads targeted by NATO's Supreme Commander Europe, the US Navy's strike carriers and the submarine launched cruise missiles that will progressively become operational aboard the American Los Angeles and Sturgeon class attack submarines.

There is nothing in this much broader balance to inhibit a political gesture — like responding to the Gorbachev freeze offer — if the Geneva negotiations

require it. It is this latter question Mrs Thatcher should have addressed in absentia, and one might reasonably have expected her to think at least twice before answering. She may already be convinced, as some members of the Reagan administration evidently are, that only a tough, belligerent approach to the Geneva talks will force concessions out of the Soviet negotiators. In that case she should say so, not perpetuate the dangerous mutual apoplexy about numerical superiority.

In total, there are far too many nuclear weapons around on both sides for any conceivable military purpose. If the British Government always intend to reject the case for unilateral reductions out of hand (which is not at all the same as abandoning nuclear weapons altogether) it must either argue a complicated nuclear war-fighting scenario as a function of deterrence, which to my knowledge Mrs Thatcher has never attempted to do, or fall back on anxious assessments of the potential enemy's percep-

tions. Very difficult, expensive ground this. Might the Kremlin leadership one day be tempted to take risks in an East-West crisis under the falsely confident impression that numerical superiority in some category of nuclear weapons gave them an advantage — even though they, like we, repeatedly state that nuclear war is "unwinnable"? In that case the Soviet perception would include a reflection of our own.

If Mrs Thatcher shares the more cynical Pentagon view that Geneva is almost certainly a lost cause, whether we take a hard line with Gorbachev or a conciliatory one, the way forward is not a return to counting warheads. It is a revival of the un fashionable concept of nuclear sufficiency. Forget, for a while, about arbitrary notions of parity and balance. How many weapons, and of which types, does NATO need to ensure a secure minimum retaliatory capability? The Supreme Commander in Europe, US General Bernard Rogers, has given a lead in

this direction during his review of the tactical stockpile, deciding among other things that nuclear landmines make no military sense because they are politically unusable. The total he was working to, under political direction, may be far too large to satisfy his anti-nuclear critics, but his approach was a tremendous improvement on the military mysticism that preceded it.

If the Americans had the confidence to apply this approach across the board, the Soviet response would to a large extent be irrelevant. How many more missiles the Russians did or did not have in a particular category would no longer matter so much. And who knows? Their tendency to match every new US weapons system with an equivalent of their own — for instance, they are currently developing three long range cruise missiles, air, land, and sea launched, in imitation of the American systems — might gradually be transformed into a parallel process of build-down.

JOHN CUNNINGHAM concludes his profile of planning policy with a look at two options for cities of the future

Towns in the market for a new start

On the road to nowhere: time for fresh thoughts on new towns. Picture by Don McPhee

WITHIN the next few weeks, a consortium of the biggest house builders in Britain is expected to announce plans for the first of a series of new small towns. The site is a Thurrock in Essex, and the development will be controversial partly because it is in a green belt, but even more so because the township will be entirely the product of private enterprise.

If the scheme gets underway, it will be both a working model and a potent symbol of Thatcher's Britain. Conceived and constructed by the private sector without grant or subsidy, the population of 15,000 would be home-owners who have paid not only for their roads, drains and lighting, but also made a substantial financial contribution to their education and health care facilities.

The consortium, which is said to have plans for some 15 towns, all within 50 miles of London, is choosing a moment that is politically appropriate for the launch. But there is another serious reason, too. The developers argue that the project will meet a likely shortfall of between 40,000 and 70,000 houses by 1991 on the GLC's figures for the South East.

They may be correct, but the worrying point is that regional economic and demographic forces have been downgraded by the Government. There are to be no more new towns, certainly, and questions about the best size and location of future settlements are hard to answer. It was Michael Heseltine, then Environment Secretary, who abolished housing targets set by Westminster. These used to give some guidance to regional development plans.

Earlier, his Labour predecessor Peter Shore ended the new towns programme: though most of the dismantling of the development corporations has taken place and will continue under the present Government.

Downgraded in policy, of little interest in public debate, the future development of towns is up for grabs by the unscrupulous and the vigilant alike. There is little strategic planning — yet there are still noticeable population shifts, as the recession hits industrial areas and the jobless drift towards the insulated South East. The bogey of overpopulation has diminished while the projected rise in number is revised downwards, accommodation is needed for new households. Single mothers with children can push up the figures appreciably, for instance.

The GLC estimates that 20,000 new homes a year are needed to cope with these extra families, to reduce overcrowding, and to replace derelict property. But new housing completions were only 11,000 in 1983, compared with over 20,000 two years earlier. The private new town-builders are basing their case on confused and revised figures from the GLC and the Department of the Environment.

There is a dispute about the number of new households that will form in the South East, and the numbers of existing families who might settle there: the GLC has forecast 400,000 more households in the South East in the decade ending in 1991, but present plans, inasmuch as they exist, would not accommodate anything like this number.

Playing the numbers game masks something else. It is that, in the hasty abandonment of the new towns programme, the Government is shamefully giving no serious thought to the sort of communities we want in post-industrial Britain. We are saying goodbye not only to new town dreams, but also to the legacy of expertise which could make life better for those displaced by the recession. New types of settlements, involving more home-based and part-time

work, might be relevant for millions of people. But the Government isn't interested; instead it says it will patch up worn-out city centres.

So enter the private towns, like those proposed by Consortium Developments, whose members include Bovis, Barratt, New Ideal, and Wimpey. The Government will, after a DoS inquiry, allow at least one to be built: a hole will be punched in the green belt. The Government will be attracted by the idea of 15,000 residents paying towards the building of their own schools and clinics (precise details are still to be worked out). Such a community will make fewer demands on the welfare state than any similar township.

The opportunist optimism behind these proposals is not shared by everyone in the planning world. David Hall, director of the Town and Country Planning Association, agrees there is a need for new settlements in the region, but reckons that the Consortium's consultants are wrong in their analysis and prescription. He questions whether the developers will be able to provide community and recreational facilities in the town, while keeping house prices within a range people can afford.

Hall is critical also of the Department of the Environment. A programme of new settlements should be pursued only if there is a regional planning strategy into which they fit, and agencies for development that combine the private and public sector functions," he says.

But if Patrick Jenkin, the Environment Secretary, does sanction at least one private new town, he will be smiling favourably as well on a novel scheme, totally different in ideology, conception and construction, which is being promoted by David Hall's own organisation, no less.

For another positive perspective on post-industrial Britain, go to Telford in Shropshire. There, on the south west flank of the new town, part of a 250-acre site has been earmarked for a new type of settlement. Unlike the new town itself, Lightmoor is small-scale and tentative: the idea is that it will create livelihoods without destroying the countryside. It is being developed at their own pace by a core group of families, more are currently needed — to suit their skills.

There is a need, says Hall, to have a different set of ingredients from a traditional town. The Lightmoor pioneers are working on a green field site. They are involved in decision-making to an unusual degree; there is an emphasis on self-help — they will build their own roads and houses — and on energy-saving and conservation. Their occupations, once they get established, will be a mixture of craft skills and small-scale hi-tech.

Lightmoor is a serious experiment. Hall reckons there could be ten similar initiatives in five years — not an aberrant outcrop on the side of a new town. The community has to fit in politically to the extent that the Telford Development Corporation approves of it, and has confidence in it to the extent of eventually vesting ownership of the land in a trust. The TCPA has had a couple of meetings with Patrick Jenkin — its self-help component apparently appeals to his political philosophy.

Jenkin presumably is attracted by what Hall calls "sweat equity" — that is, participants can put in either money, or else act as labourers in the construction of roads, drains and dwellings. The main worry at the moment, given the intense democracy of the scheme, is for the group to grow, with enough members being seriously interested, and pre-

pared to commit themselves from start to finish. Among the founders so far are a bricklayer, whose wife is interested in horticulture; a mechanic who wants to market a new type of wheelchair; and a couple with careers in electronics. There is a shortage of plumbers, and Hall says the core group needs to be enlarged to about 10 households.

A decade or more ago, Lightmoor would have been written off as a hippy commune. It might be run by sixties people, but now it is endorsed as a serious prototype for late 20th century settlements. In this, it is on a par with the small private towns which also are bidding for Government attention.

Both, in their way, are they, trial experiments. As settlements, they will be far from the monumental scale of new towns. It is as if their planners are going that the big focus is on the rebirth of work-out city centres and that, in the small margin for alternatives, their projects might just exist.

Small, humility, with work patterns changing and the jobs market shrinking for millions of people, does not inspire confidence. Whoever refashions Britain after the recession, it won't be the town planners.

towards the reconstruction of the country and undermining Syria's patiently won ascendancy over it.

According to a pro-Israeli local notable, the Israelis have pledged that, after their withdrawal, they will intervene if necessary to help their proteges against any attack from one or all of the adversaries — Druze, Moslems, Palestinian — who surround them. In return, however, the inhabitants make the Christians make a greater contribution to the SLA, and, on Tuesday, a few hundred young men enrolled in its ranks.

Whether the Israelis keep such promises no doubt depends, in good measure, on what price their own troops have to pay in support of their Lebanese proteges. But meanwhile, unless and until President Gemayel — or Syria — send an effective force down to Sidon to stop the fighting — and there is little sign of it yet — the Israelis have fashioned for themselves a powerful tool for disrupting all progress

The invasion that just won't go away

DAVID HIRST on how Israel's occupation of Lebanon will not end with withdrawal

ALTHOUGH the circumstances of its withdrawal from South Lebanon are shrouded in confusion and uncertainty, it would appear that Israel is planning to preserve a "security belt" proxied by its Lebanese allies, that stretches all the way to Sidon. As the continued heavy fighting round the city shows and which yesterday prompted Prime Minister Rashid Karami to boycott cabinet meetings until further notice, Israel will thereby retain a platform for manipulation and interference that reaches into the geographical and political heart of the country.

Reportedly, Israel is on the point of carrying out another stage of a general pull-back by the end of May, this time to take it out of the Shi'ite areas of Tyre and Nabatieh — both strongholds of resistance — and the communally mixed Bekaa Valley. In the Shi'ite areas, Israel's Lebanese

proxy forces — General Antoine Lahad's South Lebanese army — will be no more capable of holding its own than they were in the Sidon area — from which it pulled out in February — and, such as they are, they will disappear along with the Israelis. But this is clearly not intended to happen. In the latest exchange of artillery and sniper fire with the densely populated city getting much the worse of it — a "green line" has established itself and now separates Christians and Muslims who used to mingle freely even more thoroughly than does its long-established counterpart in Beirut.

It is the psychological divisions, more than the geographical ones, that will determine the course of events in this new zone of intercommunal strife. And here, on the Christian side, they already run deep. For most inhabitants, the fighting seems to have come as a surprise, and they wish it had never happened. But the

fact that it has is strengthening those forces within the community who believe that ultimate security lies with Israel rather than with a Lebanon that can no longer be restored to its old formula of intercommunal coexistence.

Further, they believe this even at the inevitable price of chronic violence of the kind that is already under way, and clandestine isolation from the rest of the country and economic blight. "I would prefer to lose a relative or two every now and then in artillery bombardments than to be massacred," said a resident of the area in what appeared to be a characteristic assessment of Muslim intentions towards their Christian compatriots.

It is all the easier in such a climate — a direct consequence of its invasion — for Israel to incorporate the whole Jezira salient into its "security belt". For the signs are that, in spite of all its setbacks in Lebanon and the blows being dealt by the Shi'ite led National Resistance,

Israel is still insisting on retaining a zone of indirect control much deeper than the one which, under the nominal command of the late Major Saad Haddad, it developed before its 1982 invasion. That was a narrow strip between Unfil and the frontier. The signs are that the new line will slice through the eastern part of the Unfil zone to take in bridges over the Litani river, the strategic Beaufort Castle on its northern bank, and the Hasbaya area in the southern approaches to the Bekaa Valley. The Jezira salient will be linked to the zone by a corridor

At present Colonel Lahad's SLA operates, in conjunction with the Israelis, as far as Kfar Kileas, six miles from Sidon. Beyond that the Lebanese Forces conduct the actual fighting round Sidon. Officially it takes its orders from anti-Gemayel rebels in East Beirut, but it is largely armed and trained by the Israelis, and its men move freely in and out of Israeli-

controlled territory.

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On the road to nowhere: time for fresh thoughts on new towns. Picture by Don McPhee



Maskings and unmaskings

John Bayley on the theory and practice of the art of biography

The Craft of Literary Biography, by Jeffrey Meyers (Macmillan, £22.50).

Instant Chronicles, by D. J. Enright (Oxford, £4.50).

MODERN theorists, particularly French ones, discount the possibility of biography on the ground that nothing in the past ever happened, that fact itself does not exist, that a sentence like "Napoleon died on St Helena" merely tells us something about language. Well, yes, one sees what they mean, but though we are conscious of the gap between the man and what is afterwards written about him we continue to be interested in the lives of great men. Great writers, especially, make good myths.

But a good biography is at once detective and mythologist, and these candid accounts of how they came about it by some distinguished contemporary literary biographers are of quite exceptional interest. There is something inherently comic, as well as instructive, about biography and artists in the business as good as these contributors must have humour as well as insight. Dr Johnson, who wrote the Lives of the Poets, observed that "nothing is too little for so little a creature as man," and as a result the feature of Pope's life most firmly lodged in my memory is the fact that his favourite food was pulled trout.

Johnson's own brilliant biographer, Donald Greene, reminds us often that Boswell himself often got things wrong, for example misreading Smollett's ill-natured description of Johnson as the "Great Cham" as the "Great Chum" of literature. Original patron of Greyfriars Academy? Greene also maintains that the Boswellian Johnson is in reality "one of the most successful hatchet jobs in the history of biography."

Certainly it created a myth instead of laying one, a creative process shunned by the scrupulous modern biographer. In a fascinating account of his research on Wyndham Lewis, Jeffrey Meyers, who edits the book, describes how he "found, held, and examined Lewis's brain," in the course of checking up on his medical history.

In the same spirit Elizabeth Longford, chronicler of the life and loves of Wilfrid Blunt, contrasted the sleep in the "narrow Spanish double bed" which Blunt had owned and in which his illegitimate son had been conceived with the "narrow" natural children who did not survive. "Because of the doings in that bed over the years," Blunt's daughter Judith, who inherited the legacy of her father, refused to sleep in it, saying it was haunted, but "as an objective biographer" Lady Longford declined to harbour such possibilities "and slept in it very well."

On a different tack Paul Mariani, the biographer of

the poet William Carlos Williams, explores the notion that the ideal literary biography should resemble the books which its subject wrote, or at least be closely in tune with his outlook and style. In Williams's case composed in what he called "plain American which even dogs and cats can understand."

That would present a problem to anyone engaged on the life of the poet whom Williams regarded as the great American poet, T. S. Eliot. Lyndall Gordon observes that "Eliot's elusiveness is the essential problem for a biographer and that the interest of his life, as well as his work, lies in a game of maskings and unmaskings."

At this the has been extraordinarily skilful, tracing the sources of the dual English and American personae, the almost sacramental hints at dark secrets and tribulations, and the way in which the poet drew attention to them in his Delphic utterances. "The more perfect the artist, the more completely separate in him will be the man who suffers and the mind which creates." His own poetic achievement is the finest possible refutation of that magical pronouncement. Lyndall Gordon draws attention to a revealing letter in which he remarked that "Beethoven's A Minor Quartet because of its 'heavenly or at least more than human gaiety'... 'things which one imagines might come to one

self as the fruit of reconciliation and relief after immense suffering."

Eliot got that into his own Quartets, but his biographer is frank about the human price, in particular his rejection of the women he loved him, "with a ruthless firmness which shattered their lives," though that must be set against the paradox of his last serenely happy marriage.

By contrast T. E. Lawrence was a sphinx without a secret, no doubt because he lacked any true creative genius, although Philip Knightley, author of the Secret Lives of Lawrence of Arabia, recounts the bizarre comedy of his investigations into Lawrence's fantasy life as a masochist, involving himself in endless difficulties with relatives and shadowy contacts who turned out to have no existence. The controversial figure remains endlessly compelling, as Knightley's book, which also tends to confirm the modern theorist who denies that any biography is possible.

So a good poet, though nothing could be simpler and more natural, Enright's Instant Chronicles of his life in verse offer an enchanting and accurate survey of events and moments which later biographies of the writer would have to concentrate on in all seriousness. This is not autobiography but mock biography, and it is, in the best sense, the most fitting, poetry's version of its life may also be the truest.



Fraser Harrison, Tilly and Jack.

Recording one's angels

Edward Blighen on 'a sort of Gilbert White of childhood'

A Father's Diary, by Fraser Harrison (Fontana, £2.95).

IF THERE'S a feeling the parents of small children suffer from more than most, it's the nagging one that says they might make sense of a wonderfully strange and crazily exhausting experience if only they had time properly to observe and record. I think about the daily detail.

In A Father's Diary, as a sort of Gilbert White of childhood, Fraser Harrison has done that. For a year he made notes of the behaviour of his daughter, four becoming five, and his son, three becoming four. Near the end, he reflects that he has written more about Jack than about Tilly. Partly, he says, because he identifies more easily with Jack's boyishness, but also because "his obsessions and outbursts are readily translated into vivid

anecdotes... Where she is witty and subtle, he is clownish and vulgar, and this too makes for effortless copy."

Explosive Jack and complex Tilly are beautifully, roundly and quite unsentimentally rendered, together with the setting, a farmhouse in Suffolk, where their mother keeps a small flock of sheep. As an honest and tender history simply of two particular children, and of a particular and sometimes irascible father (a literary freelance, subject to the tensions of his terrifying trade), the book will give enormous pleasure.

What ought to make it a minor classic among accounts of childhood and parenthood is that close observation of daily life leads the author to generalisations of very great value. The deepest of these are concerned with the truth that "the past closes up behind children immediately, while the future is an unimagined blank." Every-

thing he says about children and their very shallow immersion in "time" is memorable.

As exacting an observer of himself as he is of Jack and Tilly, struck by the anguish of parenthood, he explores matters that many parents will be happy to have discussed at once so wisely and so enjoyably: the problems for example of parental rage ("These confrontations, and the minutiae of their coming about, are the stuff of every parent's life") or of coming to terms with a boy child's passion for warlike toys. Not that A Father's Diary resembles in the least your usual book treating of problems. The anecdotes are as vivid as Fraser Harrison's claims, and rest on delight in the intensity and excitement of childhood together with a sympathy, that you can see growing as he goes, for the extremely difficult condition of being a child.

Establishing areas of unquiet

Norman Shrapnel reviews the best of the week's fiction

IN ONE of Elspeth Davis's stories a young man finds grass growing out of his head. Nobody knows from where it seems most bothered, and the story is perhaps the least disturbing in her excellent collection, A Traveller's Room.

The truly mysterious ones are those in which little things happen, sometimes nothing at all. She is a master, if the word is allowable, of reticence. True, she can suddenly call a doll a plastic child and such gestures are all more what is for being rare; but mostly she establishes areas of disquiet, leaving situations carefully unresolved, waiting for things not to happen. Her laconic style is charged with under-surface tension, she seems to work round corners, conveying meanings that are meant to be glimpsed rather than grasped.

She uses her strangely unquiet effect and is adept at launching nasty ripples into the past or future, or who knows where: in one story a Hamlet addict is attracted to a girl whose name turns out to be Ophelia, and although she is in computers, safely enough as you might think, the low and the waterwheels are waiting. Here as elsewhere Davis puts me in mind of a forgotten master of the medium, John Collier.

What is reality, what is illusion: there seems little else to write about in these two themes, and the ultimate hell would be the desert island where

A Traveller's Room, by Elspeth Davis (Hamish Hamilton, £3.95).
The Doubleman, by C. J. Koch (Chatto, £3.95).
Three Fantasies, by John

you have only one dice to play — one theme on each side and they may well turn out to be identical.

The folk group featured in The Doubleman are no doubt good enough for Prospero's island; C. J. Koch is much concerned with magic and spells, importing some of the spookier British folk ballads to mate with the bush songs of his native Australia.

Hard to play in extreme old age, Glen Cavellero says in his commentary — a fair enough epitaph and uncommonly upbeat for our day. Powys the lifelong anti-mist has the furniture chatting away merrily and we encounter many agreeable old friends walking the clouds — Dido and Aeneas, Dick Turpin, Kipling, Poe.

For any who may run away with the idea that it all began in the late Sixties, here are a couple of revivals to remind us that a preoccupation with the occult was not a thing John Cowper Powys had a mind always involved with the fundamental abstractions and was no doubt healthily sceptical about the things he actually ran up against in his daily life.

Stories brought together in Three Fantasies were written at the end of a long life, and though they

Cowper Powys (Carcanet, £2.95).
Mr Pye, by Mervyn Peake (Methuen, £3.95).
I Wish This War Were Over, by Diana O'Neil (Chatto, £3.95).

have a second-childish kind of playfulness it would be a mistake to look for mental decline or fear embarrassment — unless, improbably, you scare a little at the prospect of meeting a naked Walt Whitman reclining on a cloud. At the same time, anyone turning to this book for some farwell trumpet-call of distinguished revelatory prose will be disappointed.

"Genius at play in extreme old age," Glen Cavellero says in his commentary — a fair enough epitaph and uncommonly upbeat for our day. Powys the lifelong anti-mist has the furniture chatting away merrily and we encounter many agreeable old friends walking the clouds — Dido and Aeneas, Dick Turpin, Kipling, Poe.

Mervyn Peake, in his major work, was a different sort of fantasist. The occult was not for him; it was observable life that haunted him, setting him dredging among the bones of human endeavour and erecting a kind of skeletal, scarerow. Fossils are in a sense a denial, contradiction even, of the supernatural and it was fossils that

Peake basically dealt with, handling them with a kind of Socratic calm.

But his Mr Pye, a happier-seeming work, was unhappily not like that. Here Peake occupies Prospero's island, in this case recognisably South America, and the subject is to a moral purification campaign. As a reward — serve him right, we might well say — Mr Pye begins to sprout wings and has to go in for some strenuous dodging to get rid of them. "The (did you guess?) he finds himself sprouting horns."

The whole thing conveys an air of quite anachronistic frivolity, and the only compensations are a few verbal graphics of authentic evil: that thick white neck of lard, those doming and abominable shoulders, or a face "as expressionless as the top of a mushroom."

Back to more familiar earth with Diana O'Neil's I Wish This War Were Over, the war of the title being essentially domestic — a protracted Brief Encounter panting with steam and passion, sleeping GIs sprawled across railway carriages and the like. The war was the counterpoint of Vera Lynn yearning in the background in place of Rachmaninov.

As well as her various lovers the young heroine has an alcoholic, tyrannical and erecting a kind of skeletal, scarerow. Fossils are in a sense a denial, contradiction even, of the supernatural and it was fossils that

Trying situations

by Lauro Martinez

Trial by Impotence: Virility and marriage in pre-revolutionary France, by Pierre Darmon, trans. Paul Keegan (Chatto/Hogarth, £4.95 paper, £10.95 cloth).

BY THE thirteenth century marriage in Western Europe had evolved into a sacrament and therefore indissoluble. Divorce became exceedingly rare and was to remain so until the twentieth century.

Trial by Impotence is a cruelly amusing account of trials concerning impotence, one of the few grounds for dissolving marriage. In France such trials had their heyday in the seventeenth century, came under the initial jurisdiction of Church courts. Cases of impotence could be brought by either spouse but were usually initiated by women.

Impotence in a woman was the result of a vaginal obstruction which prevented her being "carnally known" (note the passive mood for

women). In a man, potency was proved by his ability to have an erection, to penetrate and to ejaculate. Impotence invalidated marriage because it was held to violate the sacrament and marriage's very reasons for being — namely reproduction and the keeping of sexuality within strict moral bounds.

Built on summaries of annual court proceedings, Trial by Impotence is at once a serious study — though this translation omits the scholarly apparatus — an entertainment, and an attack on the law and the psychology of pre-revolutionary France.

Pierre Darmon's book reaches beyond the history of impotence trials to raise questions about misogyny, the nature of marriage, the "myth of the phallus" and the psychology of a celibate clergy.

Like the author himself, we can only guess at the obligations in the minds of the lawyers, priests, and magistrates who loved to bandy about the sexual incapacities of unhappy couples.



Donald Sinden

Glenda Jackson

About the acting

by Michael Billington

Laughter in the Second Act, by Donald Sinden (Hodder, £3.95).
Glenda Jackson, by Ian Woodward (Weidenfeld, £10.95).

WHEN writing his first book of memoirs, Donald Sinden received a call from Ralph Richardson. "Hello cocky, when you're writing a book about yourself and the acting, don't tell them how it's done."

Fortunately, in the second volume, Sinden ignores this advice and always tells us the source of his prize comic creations: how he based his Malvolio on Sutherland's Maugham portrait, his Lord Foppington on Danny La Rue, and how in comedy the actor must distribute his laugh lines around the house until the audience becomes as one.

Craft-talk and high gossip are always intriguing, and Sinden gives us a beguiling mix of the two providing, along the way, a classic portrait of John Barton falling off the stage in mid-rehearsal and clambering back on to give his notes.

The style is the man; and the book is entertaining because, you hear, Sinden's voice, rich as a plum-cake,

coming through on every page, is as odd. "My mission in life," says Sinden, "is to see a return to the actors' theatre or we will all be reduced to Gordon Craig's vision of using puppets."

Yet Sinden's own best work has been with directors like Hall (The Wars of the Roses), Barton (Twelfth Night) and Nunn (The Relapse), all of whom showed him to be a front-rank classic actor. This off-hat plea for a return to an actors' theatre strikes me as callow. When will our comedy performers realise that their talents are liberated, rather than crushed, by strong directors?

Glenda Jackson, according to Ian Woodward's rather sour, grudging biography, is someone else who doesn't appear to rate directors (with the exception of Peter Brook) too highly: there are blow-by-blow accounts of her rather frosty behaviour on film sets and during Hedda Gabler rehearsed. But although the book pins down the housewife-superstar's puritan perfectionism, it gives little evidence that Mr Woodward has seen this astonishing actress's best stage performances and is suffused with a breezy showbiz philistinism (wrote Brook's Theatre of Cruelty preparations really "tatty" and "pretentious"?). Actors need directors. But, when it comes to reviewing their life, they are often their own best witness.

New World composers

Wilfrid Mellers on the works of two of them

The Paris and New York Diaries of Ned Rorem 1951-1961; and The Later Diaries of Ned Rorem 1961-1972 (Scribner Press, £12.95 each).
The Last Trivoltous Book, by George Dreyfus (Hale and Iremonger, £6.95).

NED ROREM is a composer of the New World who spent much of his adolescence in Paris, especially in Paris, with sundry excursions to Italy, Spain and, of course, Morocco. Born in 1923 with several silver spoons in his mouth, he was (as a young man of exceptional physical beauty — as he repeatedly informs us — and of some musical talent).

His Paris diaries tell the archetypal story of one type of American in Paris. Succoured by the wealth of the legendary Viscountess de Noailles, he visits from cocktail parties to picnics with Picasso, from casual bugging to soul-lacerating love affairs, from gastronomic rarties to three-day binges and blackouts. His hedonistic catalogue is not descriptive but quantitative, like Don Juan's, so although boring, it evades prurience.

Few shadows cloud the playboy life: he is horribly jealous of Boulzer, asking whether Pierre is really the future of music, wondering whether Boulzer, whether Ned might possibly be a Great Composer. He doesn't really fool himself, and in 1945 it is probably as obvious to him as it is to us that although Boulzer is not the future of music, neither is Rorem what Time magazine's post-prandially called him — "the world's greatest composer of songs."

Unlike Poulenc and Britten, with whom he is often compared, Rorem has never written a great song in his life, being incapable of Poulenc's hauntingly memorable tunes or Britten's evocative magic. But he has written some good ones, as well, apparently, as much middle-of-the-road

music in most media (he's always hopping off to Pittsburgh or wherever for the twenty-ninth performance of this or the other); and this professionalism belies the drinking posturing of the diaries, in which the illustrations — including photographs by (of course) Min Ray, Cocteau, Cartier-Bresson and Cecil Beaton — tell all.

The later diaries, growing up, provide a core of candour to the candyfloss epigrams, and offer acute, as well as cute, comments on other people in the (now) American scene. The writing is livelier too, if hardly worthy of the accolades bestowed on it by the distinguished poets and novelists quoted on the sleeve.

Quaker parents must be having the last laugh; he seems to have become brighter, as well as nicer, freed of the haze of alcohol and tobacco, relatively unbuffeted by the prodings of sex.

At the opposite but complementary pole George Dreyfus came from the Old World but has settled in a world still newer than America. His family were German Jews exiled by the Nazis. Living in Melbourne, Australia, George still creates out of his heritage and inner nature music in a Teutonic, post-Schoenbergian tradition, while recognising that such music can have little relevance to his environment.

Addressing himself to the problem of living as a professional composer in Australia, George found himself creating a few "artistic" and "martyr" sophisticated techniques to native elements, such as the oddly moving Sextet for didjeridoo and wind instruments. More significantly, he became a composer for both documentary and commercial films, serving an Australian industry that has impressively expanded in recent years.

Dreyfus doesn't think that in providing music for which

awareness of the cost, Russia's Extraordinary People, a new collection (the last two were reprints), tells history for a girl of the future, with wit and pity.

Gene Wolfe's first novel The Planet of Exiles (and British) juxtaposes a menopausal female reality with a farcical chauvinist of the planet to rule the galaxy. More new books include Interzone, The First Anthology (Dent, £3.95) from Britain's only running sci-fi magazine, discovered writers not as good as old pros like Ballard, Roberts, Carter, but the whole venture worthwhile for discovering Geoff Ryman, who's lead position in the anthology.

The Warrior Who Carried Life (Allen and Unwin, £7.95), a densely crafted rewrite of the Gilgamesh Epic, with a brilliantly horrid start. Bolivar Shale's The Peace Machine (Collins, £7.95) is an updated reprint, but of his best novel, a classic "Pandora's Box" story about the neutron resonator, that makes warheads detonate spontaneously. Isaac Asimov's Nine To Five (Panama, £3.95) feels old by comparison with Frank Herbert's Chapter House Dune (Collins, £3.95) was inevitable: No. 6 in the series, "and still the end is not."

David Ireland's Archimedes and the Segle (Viking, £3.95), feigns to be a dog, writing about Australia. Sick to Ryman and Russ, to the "sober certainties" — and especially to anything by Tim Powers.

David Robertson's A Dictionary of Modern Politics (Europa, £18.50) is principally concerned with ideas, and the people and institutions which embody them: 400 plus entries, brief and clear on much from NEP to neo-conservatism, Nozick and Rawls to equivalent megatonnage and direct democracy.

The second volume of Marx's Critique of Political Economy (Routledge, £16.50), Allen Oakley's rigorous analysis of Marx's sources and his use of them, deals with the years 1861-63.

Only connect

by Colin Ward

The Anatomy of Relationships and the rules and skills to manage them successfully, by Michael Argyle and Monica Henderson (Heinemann, £18).

HOW DO you relate to your relations and friends? Do you use first names, remember birthdays, and repay debts, favours and confidences? It is left to modern writers to keep contacts going in a kind of female trade union?

Human relationships have been going on since Adam and Eve, and soon took a turn for the worse with the subtle rivalry of Cain and Abel. What can the behavioural sciences possibly tell us that we haven't learned already from folklore, poetry and fiction, convention, al wisdom and personal experience?

To answer this question this bulky book has two functions. The first is to provide a summary of research findings by the authors and many others, mostly based on large-scale questionnaires and set out in a plethora of tables and diagrams, but presented in a text of praiseworthy simplicity and clarity. The second function is to act as a handy reference for all of us in distilling, from the mountain research, the simple rules for every kind of relationship.

Wipe away that superior smile, for it is the friendly people who live longer, and the study of human relations, keep up with relations and belong to a network of friends, are much happier, less prone to life's disasters and have significantly better physical and mental health.

Men gain more from marriage, though women gain more from being single, and "it has been suggested that the reason women live longer is that they are able to form closer and more supportive relationships." Women thus cope better than men with the loss of a spouse through divorce is more traumatic than bereavement.

The book takes us through friendship, love, courtship, cohabitation, marriage, divorce, parents, children and adolescents, kinship, working and professional relationships, and our links with neighbours, deducing rules of thumb from hundreds of informants in Britain, Italy, Hong Kong, and Japan. They were that we should respect the other's privacy, that we should look the other person in the eye during conversation, that we should not betray confidences and that we should not criticise the other person publicly.

The authors don't spell out implications, but evidently the worst blow that any of us can feel, is to our self-esteem, and they do suggest that to boost this is the best thing we can do for ourselves. They also suggest that we should not betray confidences and that we should not criticise the other person publicly.

They conclude by asking what we can do with all this knowledge, describing the various kinds of training and therapy for relationships, and suggesting that their list of rules could be incorporated in "a didactic kind of therapy or in self-help schemes." Fair enough. We used to be told that Dale Carnegie's How to Win Friends and Influence People was the world's second best seller. The demand for advice is obvious, and it might as well be based upon the aggregate of experience.

in brief

Butler's Lives of the Saints, one of the English classics among Catholic works of piety written by the eighteenth century chaplain to the Duke of Norfolk, has been issued in a concise edition by Burns & Oates (price £5.95 paper, £10.95 cloth). Michael Walsh has edited the four volumes of the text of the 1956 edition to one volume of under 500 pages, with an up to date "index of saints" as well as a list of patron saints.

This last presents interesting divisions of labour. Matthew is of course the patron bookkeeper and bankers, but Gabriel watches over not only clerics but most of the telecommunications industry of television itself is the thirteenth century (the saint of Assisi). Journalists (St Francis de Sales) will note that there are different saints for relations men (the zealous and eloquent Bernardino Siena), and that printworkers have no less than three, Augustine, Agnesius and John of God.

Stephen Williams's Diectionary of the Roman Empire (Batsford, £17.50) is the first biography in English of the Dalmatian soldier-emperor who transformed and revived the shabby empire he took command of after the murder of Numerian.

David Robertson's A Dictionary of Modern Politics (Europa, £18.50) is principally concerned with ideas, and the people and institutions which embody them: 400 plus entries, brief and clear on much from NEP to neo-conservatism, Nozick and Rawls to equivalent megatonnage and direct democracy.

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GUARDIAN BOOKS

The literary Civil War

by Raymond Williams

Writing and Revolution in 17th Century England: Volume One of the Collected Essays of Christopher Hill (Harvester, £28.50)

IF IT is supposed that we have a national literature, and that it is part of what is now called our heritage, it is not surprising that those who actually read that vast diversity of writing become involved in disputes that reach to our own time.

Among several causes of dispute, the writing of the seventeenth century has been pre-eminent. There are larger changes, in that century, of material and of methods, of forms and of audiences or public, than in any other comparable period. Yet arguments about the nature of these changes have always, explicitly or implicitly, reached beyond the frontiers of critical and scholarly dispute.

The significance of the general transformations of that century—social and economic, political and cultural—is inescapable to anyone who knows its complex history, knows also that "our heritage" is profoundly contentious and divisive.

The great strength of this first volume of Christopher Hill's collected essays is that he has rooted himself in that continuing time. So much is this so that he can write, at first sight curiously, that he has "the advantage of coming to Defoe from the seventeenth century."

What he means, and what his essays justify, is that he is immersed in the details of that extraordinary time and yet that he can look both into and beyond it with the special insights of an unusually close historian. His direct knowledge of its writings, of its poets, dramatists, diarists, pamphleteers and reasoners, is a major factor in his kind of history. We can indeed adapt what he says of Defoe: that he learned "not from a few books but from a lifetime's immersion in a cultural environment."

Much of the earlier literary controversy was centred on Milton, with extending arguments about the "metaphysical" poets and Marvell. These figures are here again, with

fine essays on Milton and Marvell, and on Vaughan. There is a range of studies, from Traherne to Rochester, and from the Lowland romantics to Pepys. Yet the most general interest of the collection may be in its emphasis on the effects of censorship, to which he draws attention in his preface.

There is not only an exceptionally general account of the changing processes of censorship through the century. There is also a repeated awareness, in studies of particular writers and forms, of the changing pressures and limits on what is too often studied as writing wholly directed by itself. At the same time, as in the opening essay on the pre-revolutionary decades, this sense of limits and pressures is not confined to the many overt prohibitions and interventions.

There is also a fine sense of the interaction of forms and audiences, which goes well beyond simple censorship but which in its many internal, willing or unwilling, adaptations is again and again a large part of the real social history of writing. This is interesting in as apparently remote a case as Traherne, but it is at its most striking in the fascinating development of the drama and in the internal development of the "metaphysical" lyric.

What underlies all these specialist studies is a convincing sense of the complex processes of thinking and feeling, and with these of writing: the more impressive when applied to a period in which great causes were declared, and were fought and suffered for. It is used often to be the case that to recognise such complexity was to cancel or reduce the causes, in a higher "literary" sensibility which could be distanced from politics but then, as turned, served, become effectively anti-political: supposedly wise recognition of timeless conflicts.

Christopher Hill's achievement, for this decisive century, is to return the complexity to its active, often still active roots. It is then by entering and trying to understand that long struggle, rather than, as in Eliot, offering to rise above it in modern critical generalisation, that the real complexities are disclosed.

Fair of Speech, edited by D. J. Enright (Oxford, £9.95)

SOME words, pretty in the mouths of even a meadow mouse, are like the tiny white flowers which blossom in March on the blackthorn bush. They deflect the eye, and sometimes the mind, from the barbarous tangle of spikes upon which they dance with a summer delicacy in the blizzard of east winds. A froth, so to speak, of little white lies: a way of seeing things when peeping out from the shelter of a woodshed carefully nailed together with discreet phrases not cut against the grain.

Fair of Speech is a collection of unfailingly entertaining essays from the long grass beyond the hut about "the uses of euphemism." Imagine, then, a veined and hairy scout thrusting down with expert disdain at all the fraudulent little blooms which decorate but only occasionally disguise their thornier realities. What a critic's euphemism would call a rag-bag of contributors—16 of them, all with armpits, plus their non-decorating editor, D. J. Enright—duly sniffs long and deep through yes, yes perfectly natural conduits of wit and slyness to find when all is said and done that there is still a stench riding on the sweetest breeze.

No-one who gets his efferescence from the antique bottle will need to be persuaded of the value of fastidiousness in speech. Give me, please, language which veils the workings of the bowel. Forget the pus in the boil, the whistle in the denture, the crotch-shot, the rotting

A heavy hand with little white lies

Dennis Potter reviews a collection of over-eager essays on the use of euphemism

corpse in the wormy soil, or the million other prior afflictions, infestations, wounds, farts, scabs and stinks of our steadily decaying flesh. Squirt me the scented nozzle for I am one in spirit with those coy New Yorkers who use a pooper-scooper and not a shit-shovel to clean up after their dogs.

Death and sex and what the self-stung blurb staidly calls "other natural functions" would be less approachable without a salve of softened words under an occultive sentiment. Many of the contributors show an ambivalence between the desire for grace and eagerness to condemn the hyperrealities of convenient lies.

It is an old dilemma. Too often, of course, the gaps open wide between language and deed, phrase and function, bandage and wound, to let in the bacilli of the contaminated world. The type which can convulse the nervous system, as when nasty little boys at the back of the class are unable to suppress helpless laughter.

Much of the entertainment in the collection comes from precisely this low form of hilarity, made worse by the equally comical solemnity of scholar or specialist lifting the silvered lid off something nasty. It is the kind of book to take to bed with a p-o-face and windy stomach. The unavoidable fault of the collection, once its arrangement had been decided, lies in the fragmentation of the subject under so



Memento mori from the Lisle psalter, early 14th century; from The Flowering of the Middle Ages, a sumptuously illustrated collection of brief essays—Christopher Brooke on medieval society, George Zarniecki on the religious orders, T.S.R. Boase on 'King Death', and others—edited by Joan Evans (Thames & Hudson, £18).

many different hands and interests. Slippery words slide too easily into the right boxes. Euphemisms (and dysphemisms, their nasty-minded opposites) from literature, the law, religion, children's speech, politics, medicine, advertising and the office are sayed to add to the words on the wrong side of the blanket. There is even the uncertain

pleasure of an uncensored Richard Cobb splashing about in alien urinals to show what our neighbours do when they alter on le roi va a pied. Looking for a Booker winner, perhaps. Words often edge away from what it is they are meant to describe, avoiding both the humdrum and the threatening; the shift can be detected even here, where

the transposition is itself under review. Unease flickers in one piece, flares in another, dies in a third. Hateful faces occasionally leer out from behind the lattice of cosy jargon, like gargoyles in a wall of words, and then are banished with a quip. D. J. Enright's lightly graceful introduction, characteristic of the general tone of an undemanding book, compen-

sates for the scatter by glancing towards the more profound and alarming consequences of not seeing straight.

Peter Mullen's bitterly passionate denunciation of the seemingly faithless timidities of the New English Bible, provides in itself an unintended commentary on the ways in which we can now express conviction. His anger, or even grief, presses so hard within a satirically polemical style that his own belief teeters towards that depressingly jovial facetiousness which beleaguered clergymen are in danger of making their own. The very errors of style and confidence he is condemning have faced themselves into his attacks.

The Devil may indeed be walking up and down in the world, but we cannot call him that, let alone recognise his uniform. Our heads retain their old shapes, but the stuff inside gets "refurbished." We are footloose with our tongues, and dangerous when we stretch our lips.

In a culture as achingly empty as is so much of our own, whose arts and literature appear shudderingly explicit and wide open to the truth of things, the enormity of our plight has to be hidden by concepts which go so far beyond the balm of "euphemism" as to be insane.

We are peeping out now not from the woodshed, but the bomb shelter. And the last word of that sentence, of course, is the euphemism to end all euphemisms, and any other discourse as well.

Scots revisions

by Caroline Tisdall

John Prebble's Scotland (Secker, £12.95). Scotland's Story, by Tom Steel (Collins, £12.95). Highland Drive, by John Keay (John Murray, £9.95).

NO NATION revises its history as constantly as Scotland. The Irish and the Welsh by comparison are slow starters, tinkering with minor details. But with the Scots, waves of interpreters, like the invaders of the past, back away at the very core of the whole romanticised edifice.

In the recent batch of books, clans can be seen as predatory cattle thieves, heroes fallible, traditional villains like the Campbells no worse than other opportunists and longer quite so clear. Meanwhile, most of us have by now accepted that many of the tartans, symbols of romance and excellence, are no more traditional or authentic than whisky made in Japan.

Like many of the more charming aspects of Scottishness a fair proportion are concoctions fermented by Walter Scott and Co to please the visiting English monarch in 1822. In that past they succeeded the romantic view of history. Today they sustain the reality of modern Scotland: the need for jobs and the pleasure of tourists.

The dominant tone of the new view is as pragmatic as that, in marked contrast to the anger and nationalism of the past two decades. It is just over 20 years since John Prebble's The Highland Clearances was published, a devastating account of the bitter debates. Some of these encounters are recalled in his latest book, John Prebble's Scotland, but peppery Prebble has mellowed. He revisits landscapes first dreamed of in his Canadian childhood, and finds them as enduring as the lives of old friends who once lived among them as transitory.

He still argues a point and never misses a chance to highlight an injustice, but now we find him magnanimously laying flowers on the graves of the traditional villains of Culloden, the Campbells and the English. An intelligent, slightly melancholy book, handsomely illustrated, an ideal for a journey.

All hell would have broken out if Prebble and Tom Steel had encountered each other 20 years ago. Steel's Scotland's Story is subtitled A New Perspective, and it is as pragmatic one. The book is easier to digest than the television series it accompanied because this perspective is traceable amidst the masses of facts.

His line of argument, from early tribes to the present, is that Scotland's woes and defeats have a certain inhe-

rent inevitability, given the diversity of her people and their different cultures: Picts, Scots, Angles, Britons, Highland or Lowland, Gael or not, and all of them far removed from the market place of modern economics.

In Steel's interpretation, this conflict, however painful, is the root cause of the creativity and inventiveness of the Scottish people. So the great waves of emigration of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries are seen as ultimately positive in the opening up of vast tracts of the New World to Scottish influence and fortune, and a fair proportion of the book, like the TV series, deals with the wealth and power amassed by Scots in the United States, Canada and Australia.

In this vein the Clearances, while providing in Steel's opinion "a source of inspiration to poets, novelists and journalists," are seen in the perspective of "a restless, changing age, and as in all such periods of history sections of society, often inadvertently, get hurt." It is unfortunate that the numbers of Scots still "getting hurt" into emigration in 1980 should have been inadvertently reduced by a printing error on the last page from 25,000 to 2,500.

For two hundred years Highland journeys have been a popular way of recording history and the lives of "Nature's gentlemen and scholars." The Highlanders Dr Johnson was an early whistle-stop tourist, while Thomas Pennant's journeys of the 1770s are still invaluable sources for scholars and historians, as well as latter-day romantics like John Keay. In 1981 he set out to follow the old cattle drovers' route from the Isle of Skye to Crieff, 200 miles in all, in the company of 30 head of Highland cattle, and a motley band of friends, sponsors and the occasional TV crew anxious for action.

The cattle, 29 docile bulls and a flighty female, were clearly amazed at this anachronism in these days of the cattle trucks. In cahoots perhaps with "the cruelty people" of the animal protection societies who kept a hawk-eye on the enterprise, they refused to swim from Skye to the mainland, unlike their ancestors. Further in to their ancestral walk, having developed "a plodding harmony" with their drovers, their great curving horns went indignantly floppy due to an excessive modern dose of magnesium.

But they all got there in the end, and the account is marvellously entertaining and sometimes self-debunking. John Keay wisely quotes the cynical African chief who said: "Take a walk, make a book." But at the same time Highland Drive gives real insight into the days when the wealth of the Highlands was cattle and people.

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The lawyers invade the City and the governor doesn't really fancy their brief



NOTEBOOK
Peter Rodgers

BEHAVE like gentlemen, not like lawyers searching for a loophole to exploit in every regulation. That was the gist of the message last night from former lawyer Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, governor of the Bank of England, who is worried that old habits of

obeying the spirit and not just the letter of the City's rules are breaking down. If they do, it could mean American-style detailed regulation of every nook and cranny of the markets.

The Governor was firing a deliberate warning shot not just across the bows of the senior bankers at the Lombard Association where he spoke but also to all the brokers, jobbers and emerging securities conglomerates which are building up ready for the Stock Exchange's "big bang" next year. Though he was giving private talk the Bank took the unusual step of releasing the one page extract in which he expressed his concern.

Profits are harder to earn as competition steps up in difficult times, said Mr Leigh-Pemberton. Supervisors therefore start to define standards more precisely, as the new Securities and Investment Board will shortly be doing.

As the governor pointed out in some places — New York is the prime example — the rules are defined legally and it is accepted practice to put the text of any requirement under a microscope to test for loopholes. I think I have detected once or twice recently signs that, within the City, some may be tempted to move towards a similar approach. Were any firm to be confirmed, it would be a very sad day for all of us.

In other words, watch out, or the SIB and the other supervisory bodies will be transformed into a British version of the US Securities and Exchange Commission with a huge rulebook. Some of the bankers at last night's meeting may have squirmed in their seats. Among the things that angered the governor recently were attempts to exploit loopholes in the new controls on off-balance sheet lending by banks.

Full frontal

In the City, the Hungarian International Bank is famous mainly for being aggressively and successfully capitalising without any public traces of ideology. But it is still hard to miss the irony in a Communist owned bank's decision to back Eddie Shah, source of the National Graphical Association, who is launching a full frontal assault on the print unions with a new £20 million national newspaper where there will definitely be no closed shop.

HIB's managing director Mr Tim Newling said yesterday that the hire purchase deal for printing presses was entirely commercial. The bank has good printing industry contacts and is leading a small consortium put together after an approach from the equipment manufacturer, Man Roland of West Germany. "We know a fair amount about printing presses," he added.

Mr Shah had "a very good idea of the market and a good project. I think it is going to be very successful. Members of the group are happy with the quality of the presses and the financing terms are good." Mr Shah has made a deposit of £1.5 million on the five presses and the group of banks is financing the £6.2 million balance.

The deal has been completed, and only delivery is awaited. Will HIB do more business with Eddie Shah? "I'd love to in the future," says Mr Newling.

Mr Newling thought that Mr Shah had "a very good idea of the market and a good project. I think it is going to be very successful. Members of the group are happy with the quality of the presses and the financing terms are good."

airborne interview was quite extraordinary, and never mind the fact that the same sort of numbers have already been published.

The inflation figures hidden away on page 10 of the Budget Red Book are the working assumptions of Civil Service forecasters. And everybody knows that that is usually pie in the sky. The Red Book says inflation in the last likely year for an election, 1987-8, will be 3.5 per cent while for 1988-9 it will sink to 3 per cent. You do not hear Red Book assumptions thrown around on the hustings. But once a Prime Minister elevates the numbers to the status of a target and even expresses the hope of going lower in two or three years time, you are into a different and entirely political game. Mrs Thatcher will have to try and stick with the newly enshrined target or risk having the taint Mrs 3 per cent thrown in her face during the campaign.

high interest rates whenever the pound sinks and inflation rises is not a passing phase, or a final dose of nasty medicine before the pre-election sweeteners start to arrive. It could be with us until polling day. If Mrs Thatcher is to stick to what she says about inflation.

Why be surprised? We've had six years of tight budgets. Last year's market belief that the Government was retreating by stealth proved an illusion. If you believe the Bank of England's rationalisations after the event, contained in the latest quarterly bulletin, that impression only gained ground because the Government was misreading the money and bank lending figures anyway, a mistake rather than a shift of policy.

to the election will be a treat to see, especially as the intellectual justification for the Government's whole approach to the jobless is increasingly threadbare. (See page 25.)

The high pay rises which the Government blames for unemployment are all with the better off, not with the poor who the Chancellor claims should price themselves downwards into work.

New pitch
MOULSDALE's move into the London gilt market breaks ground in itself — the first firm to take up a new jobbing gilt pitch for at least 15 years. It is also well practised in dual capacity. Until 11 years ago it operated both functions but had to split the business — started back in 1973 — into two when all the country's Stock Exchanges amalgamated. All skills will be needed for the predicted blood bath.

Llandarcy cutback will save £15m a year

BP to axe 750 jobs at Welsh refinery

By Mary Brasher
BP Oil has shed 750 jobs in South Wales as part of plans to end crude oil refining at its plant in Llandarcy, near Swansea.

The company is to restructure the Llandarcy refinery in an attempt to restore its profitability and three-quarters of the current 1,100-strong workforce will be laid off from July.

Crude oil processing will be halted by the end of this year and the plant will concentrate on producing lubricants and specialist oils.

BP Oil's chief executive, Mr Ian Walker, said the closure of Llandarcy's refining operations would save £15 million a year, and was part of a long-term programme to tackle over-capacity.

Llandarcy is the third refinery BP has shut down in three years, and from next year only Grangemouth in Scotland, of the company's four original refineries, will still be processing crude oil.

Shutting Llandarcy will remove another 8.5 million tons of crude capacity, which has been slashed from 17.5 million tons to 8.5 million tons since 1982.

BP claimed yesterday that although the refinery is still in the black almost all its profit last year came from lubricants.

Straight refining was at best break-even and the hope of the future is worse and Llandarcy will move into losses," said a spokesman.

News of the cutbacks is another blow to job prospects in one of the highest unemployment blackspots in Wales. The area has already suffered from job losses at Metal Box, Borg Warner, and BSC's Port Talbot works which has shed 7,000 employees.

Mr Michael Rush, chief executive of West Glamorgan county council, said BP's decision could have serious repercussions. "As well as the direct job losses, hundreds of other jobs depend on the refinery."

Local union officials were angry at the surprise nature of the announcement, which they described as "out of the blue". Most of the job losses will occur in shutting down the main fuel processing and cracking operations. But the refinery also includes an ocean terminal at Angle Bay employing 30 which will be shut down.

Operations at Queens Dock and the Swansea Road Distribution Terminal are expected to continue.

BP hopes to counter some of the impact of its rationalisation by expanding the lubricants operations at Llandarcy and hold out the hope of £15 million of new investment. The plans have not been agreed but could include a £5 million bitumen plant.

Welsh secretary Mr Nicholas Edwards said BP has discussed its plans for Llandarcy and he welcomed the new investment. "The closure costs if BP had shut down Llandarcy altogether are estimated at £35 million."

Bank holds to gilts plan

By Margaret Pagano, City Correspondent
THE BANK of England's stance on the structure of the gilt market, which is due this week, is unlikely to depart radically from the proposals unveiled in last November's draft paper.

Reaction to the draft "blue paper" from the City and potential applications to the new market has been described as muted. Comments are said to have focused on technical details rather than on fundamental issues.

While there has been a fair share of criticism over the proposal that all primary gilt sales must be bought by members of the Stock Exchange — for regulatory purposes — it is widely accepted that initial membership is inevitable.

But the latest document, which the Bank has scheduled to publish this week, does reflect many of the more technical comments and proposals which have been suggested to it. It is likely to take a tougher line on the secondary gilt market than the original plan.

The paper will also set out the timetable for applications from potential gilt market-makers who will now be able to start individual discussions with the Bank over their particular trading requirements and whether they fit the criteria.

On the heels of the Bank's paper came news of another City realignment yesterday to prepare for the dramatic changes which will take place once the monopoly held by the two jobbing firms in the gilt market is abolished.

Phillips & Drew, one of the three largest gilt brokers, is taking a 5 per cent stake in the Liverpool City jobs. Moultsdale P & D, which is linked with the Union Bank of Switzerland, has already declared its desire to become a major player in the market.

The two groups will then be devalued to provide a full range of gilt trade, which employs 32 people in Liverpool, has a strong retail client network among country brokers

New generation of locos for BR

By Michael Smith, Industrial Editor
Technological spin-offs from the revolutionary tilting passenger carriages are to be incorporated in a new generation of locomotive called the Electra. To be ordered soon by British Rail.

BR is planning to invest at least £80 million over the next five or six years in the Electra, which will combine the technology of the existing 125mph High Speed Train and the APT project.

It was emphasised last night that a larger share of the APT project is likely to be incorporated in the passenger carriages. These carriages, which have not yet been ordered, will contain the tilt mechanism.

The tilt system of the APT, developed by British Rail at a cost of over £40 million, allows the train to corner faster than conventional locomotives. But after breaking the speed record on the London-Glasgow

run, the APT was later withdrawn because of difficulties with the tilting mechanism. British Rail has since ordered a further 100 locomotives and stepped up trial runs of the APT prior to formulating its plans for the new Electra series of locomotives.

Now British and foreign locomotive builders are being invited to submit tenders for the Electra, which BR wants to operate on the newly electrified London-Edinburgh route by 1989.

At first, BR will want 31 locomotives for the East Coast operation between London and Edinburgh, but it has plans to purchase a further 100 for use on West Coast.

Competition to build the new locomotive is likely to be intense, especially as British Rail has made it clear that it will accept bids from foreign manufacturers. Also, a successful order from a private customer like British Rail would open up the possibility of orders from railways throughout the world.

Shell and BHP in £443m bid

By Andrew Cornelius
Broken Hill Proprietary, Australia's biggest company, has joined forces with Royal Dutch Shell Group, to mount a £443 million takeover bid for an Australian exploration company which holds the key to a \$9 billion gas sales project.

Woodside Petroleum, the operator for the North West Shelf liquefied gas project in Western Australia, has long been viewed as the stumbling block in negotiations to complete a joint venture contract to sell 6.6 million tonnes of liquefied gas each year to eight Japanese utilities.

BHP and Shell, who together hold 49 per cent of Woodside's shares, maintain that Woodside

is unlikely to complete the financing of the project in time to meet the target date of October 1989 for the first sales to Japan.

The two majors said yesterday that they want to be "absolutely certain" that the project proceeds as planned.

The North Shelf project is the biggest resource project in Australia. Exploration began in 1963 and the first phase of development was recently completed with a 20 year agreement to sell 30 million of cubic feet of gas to the Energy Commission of Australia over a 20 year period. The second phase deal to supply the Japanese utilities is due to be signed this summer.

with the takeover. However each company would nominate two additional directors to the Woodside board to give them a veto over any decision. The two majors said they also plan to raise a further £160 million to help fund the project.

Hungary backs new UK paper

The Communist-owned Hungarian National Bank today confirmed it is backing newspaper entrepreneur Mr Eddie Shah in his plan to launch a new national daily.

Mr Shah said the newspaper would be on sale seven days a week, and would be "picketed between the Mirror and the Telegraph" in a bid to have a narrow, political view. "We want to cater for the middle, thinking people who want to make up their own mind and do not want comment served up as news. He stressed: "The Hungarian Bank will not have any of the shares in the company. This is like the hire purchase of a car. There is no way they could affect the editorial content of the paper."

He said he had been "disappointed with the attitude of British banks. The new newspaper will involve a total of around £22 million finance — including just under £10 million share capital — and will be separate from his Messenger company.

Mr Shah said he would have more than 30 per cent of the shares. More than half the share capital had come from six investing institutions, including Canover Investments, arm of the British and Commonwealth Investment Group, and the Scottish Investment Trust.

He expected the others to announce their involvement within the next few days but declined to name them.

Mr Shah said he would like to float the company and offer shares to the public in two or three years.

He wanted to see 10 per cent of its shares going to staff a year or so after it started trading and likewise was hoping some 20 per cent of Messenger shares would go to staff in the next two years.

Bae could lose Saudi contract

By our Industrial Staff
A contract which has earned British Aerospace around £1.3 billion in recent years is due to expire only three months after the forthcoming £600 million share sale by the Government and BAE.

The deal, to provide training and back-up to the air force in Saudi Arabia, runs out in August and BAE is not expected to be renewed automatically.

A new contract from the Saudis would be worth around £500 million and secure the jobs of 1,600 aerospace workers over the next three years.

Rival companies are already drawing up plans to compete with BAE for the Saudi contract. Mrs Thatcher is due to meet King Fahd on Sunday for trade talks, and the air force deal is likely to be high on the agenda.

BAE officials say they are "reasonably optimistic" of retaining the contract. The firm hopes its long involvement with the Saudis will help swing the order. BAE has held the contract since 1973.

It is thought that both the United States and France are anxious to extend their trade links with the oil-rich Saudis, and British firms might choose overseas partners in their bid to clinch the order.

British Aerospace is still smarting from its recent failure to clinch a £200 million order from the Ministry of Defence to supply trainer aircraft to the Royal Air Force. The order, potentially worth up to £1 billion with export orders, went to Short Bros of Belfast in partnership with the Brazilian firm, Embraer.

The sale of the Government's 48 per cent shareholding in BAE and the firm's own money-raising exercise are due to be launched on the stock market early next month.

Goldsmith offer

Sir James Goldsmith yesterday launched a bid for control of Crown Zellerbach Corporation. He offered to pay \$42.50 a share for between 14 million and 16 million shares of the forest-products concern, but only if Crown Zellerbach withdraws a complex anti-takeover provision.

Sir James, who has been stalling the company for several months, already owns 8.5 per cent of Crown Zellerbach's 27.3 million total shares outstanding.

Banks calm in savings storm

From Alex Brummer

The turmoil among America's financial institutions gave the foreign exchanges new cause for concern yesterday, with the dollar taking some heavy punishment. The latest speculation was that an Oklahoma bank is in trouble, although this was quickly denied by the authorities.

However, for those looking for excuses to knock the US currency down and prove the theory that the US financial system is fundamentally unsound, there was plenty of grist for the mill. A number of financial institutions from around the country disclosed that they would be affected by the collapse of the Revell, Russett and Schulman securities firm — but all minimised the likely damage.

Among those coming clean were the Northern Bank and Trust Company of Little Rock, Arkansas, which said it did not expect to incur a "significant loss" even though it had some \$22 million of financial instruments outstanding with the failed securities firm. Officials inside the company put the likely loss at around \$12.5 million. Similarly, the Imperial Savings Association of San Diego, California, sought to reassure depositors with a statement that it does not expect a "material adverse effect."

But the difficulty in assessing the extent of the bank problems was fully on display yesterday when it was disclosed that the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation — which guarantees deposits in federally supervised banks — may lose some \$395 million as a result of the 1983 failure of Mr Jake Butcher's United American Bank of Knoxville. Furthermore, the ramifications of last month's crisis among the Ohio savings and loans is still being felt. Although the problem has dropped from public view some half of the 70 savings institutions in the state still remain closed to normal business. Partly, the problems with the state's savings institutions are being taken care of by the big New York banks which have seen the run as an opportunity to move in on an important industrial state, from which they were previously barred by interstate banking rules.

DEMOCRATIC AND POPULAR REPUBLIC OF ALGERIA

MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND PETROCHEMICAL INDUSTRIES
NATIONAL OIL WELL COMPANY
(ENTREPRISE NATIONALE DES TRAVAUX AUX Puits)

INTERNATIONAL CALL TO TENDER NUMBER 1144/1J/MC

THE NATIONAL OIL WELL COMPANY IS LAUNCHING A NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL CALL TO TENDER OPEN TO ALL COMPETITORS FOR THE PROVISION OF:

- LOT NO. 1 SPARE PARTS FOR DEUTZ ENGINES — B.A. 6M/816
- LOT NO. 2 SPARE PARTS FOR DEUTZ ENGINES — B.A. 12M/816

Those Tenderers who are interested by this invitation to tender may obtain specifications on payment of the sum of 400 Algerian Dinars, from the following address:
ENTREPRISE NATIONALE DES TRAVAUX AUX Puits — 16, ROUTE DE MEFTAH — OUED — SMAR — EL HARRACH — ALGER — ALGERIA,
DIRECTION DES APPROVISIONNEMENTS —
AS FROM THE PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

Tenders drawn up in five (5) copies must be sent in a double sealed and registered packet to the Secretariat of the Direction Approvisionnement to the address mentioned above.

The outer envelope must be anonymous, with no marking except the following endorsement:
"APPEL A LA CONCURRENCE INTERNATIONALE NUMERO 1144/1J — CONFIDENTIEL — A NE PAS OUVRIR."

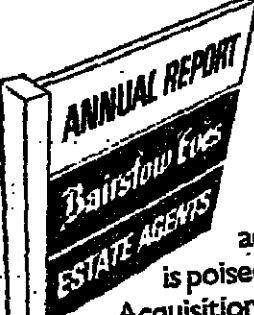
The tenders must arrive within 45 days of the first publication of this notice. The option period shall be 180 days as from the closing date of the open invitation to tender.

Bairstow Eves

The first residential estate agency to have its shares listed on The Stock Exchange.

RECORD RESULTS IN 1984

- 16,800 homes sold in 1984 — more than ever before.
- Profits rose to a new high of £3,061,000.
- Dividend to shareholders raised by 20%.
- In 1984 total branches up from 66 to 94.
- Earnings per share increased by 33% to 5.48p.
- Continued development of mortgage and financial services.



FURTHER PROFIT GROWTH EXPECTED....

The expansion of the business is continuing, and with the additional funds of £6.8 million raised in January, the Company is poised to expand both by acquisition and internal growth. Acquisitions so far in 1985 increase total branches to 104.

For a copy of the 1984 Report & Accounts please write to:
Company Secretary, Bairstow Eves PLC, 76 North Street, Rofford, Essex RM1 1HD.

This is no time to bet your bottom dollar

INVESTMENT
Robin Stoddart

AS THE WITHDRAWALS of the advanced economies, central bankers often have to avoid saying what they are doing and what they do say may fly in the face of reality as perceived by the common man. It is all a question of confidence, with more emphasis on the first syllable than any article of faith.

Mainly because there are too many headless chickens running around in their own backyards, those most responsible for picking at the

complex entrails of the financial system are now beginning to get their act together as regards interest and exchange rates. The distant drumming of the most indebted and poorest countries is also helping to jerk bankers into consistent action. Transfusions of funds are being made available when necessary without too much doctrinaire monetarist fear about the effect on inflation.

The Federal Reserve chairman, Mr Paul Volcker, the most important and independent decision-maker, has added his considerable weight to the idea that the United States economy may be losing momentum. Whether he believes it or not is irrelevant. By blaming the budget and trade deficits as the main threat to stable growth, he is saying nothing he has not said many times before. What he means is that higher interest rates would be most inappropriate to the prevailing conditions.

Previously, the opinion about whether the Federal Reserve might have to lighten the credit tap to avoid the restocking of in-

flation that a steeply falling dollar would signal had been fairly evenly divided. This was most obviously reflected in US treasury bond prices which have been moving up and down erratically, and they recovered strongly on Mr Volcker's rumblings about the imbalances that are affecting economic growth.

In fact the performance of the US economy is still quite enviable by British standards, even if growth around half the 6.9 per cent leap in national output achieved in the US last year. There is good reason to expect Britain's revival to accelerate to a similar rate, approaching 3.5 per cent, after the ending of the miners' strike but so far it is only a hope. Whereas US motor production is booming at present, imports are still taking a disastrous 60 per cent of the British market. Housing starts also seem set to recover more strongly this spring in North America than anywhere in Europe. Unemployment in the US has stuck at 7.5 per cent and while this may not be as

low as in the later stages of previous upturns new jobs are still being created at a rapid rate in the service sector. At nearly twice this rate and with no real sign of improvement, Britain's recovery is still conspicuously by its absence for a very large minority of her population.

Mr Volcker's main preoccupation is not, however, the plight of US farmers, miners or others who have been left out of the boom over there or are threatened by soaring imports from Japan or elsewhere. He needs to be sure that the failure of another small dealer in government securities in the US does not erode confidence on the line of lenders to more substantial banks once again. In order to prevent large-scale withdrawals of funds, the lender of last resort needs to make sure that there are plenty available.

Lower interest rates would achieve the double object of easing the pressure on borrowers and stimulating faster economic growth. The time may not be ripe for more than fractional reductions in some key lending rates but the world would be reassured if a downward trend

of dollar rates were resumed. The dollar itself has stabilised after last month's dive, but its trend against the currencies of the main creditor countries, Japan and Germany, must surely be downwards from now on. Since the oil price is a determinant of the value of the pound it would probably be too much to expect a sustained fight by sterling. In any case such a move would raise immediate expectations of a further fall in interest rates however grateful the Chancellor and the Governor of the Bank of England may suggest that it should be. A stable pound may now be looked for and welcomed by manufacturing industry.

While the latest money supply figures appear to be better than expected they continue to show that credit is expanding a good deal faster in Britain than it is in the US. On that basis, as well as on yield considerations, dollar bonds may be a better investment than sterling gilt. The same cannot be said, however, of deposits in the respective currencies in a pound market offering up to half as much

again as the gross return on dollars.

In equity markets, the rate of increase in company profits, which is now set to slow quite rapidly, is the main determinant of individual share prices. As the main annual report season in Britain comes to an end, quarterly earnings reports from US corporations may command more attention. Their aggregate profits have been squeezed during the rise in the dollar since half of the top American manufacturers, profiled formerly came from overseas. Now that the dollar is lower, there is an inbuilt gain that is no longer applicable to British companies, with the possible exception of exporters with a longer order-delivery cycle. With a lead from Wall Street, London share prices will be hard put to mount any sort of a challenge to previous peaks.

A spread of risk in currencies, whether through overseas investment, investment trust holdings, or even, for high taxpayers, in offshore foreign currency deposits, is a wise precaution when no currency or share market is a clear winner.

COMPANY BRIEFING

Smith
tops up
City
forecast

An improvement in all areas of Smith Industries' broadly based stable of industrial products combined to push profit before tax up by 35 per cent to £20.2 million in the half year to February.

The figures, which came just above city forecasts and saw the shares firm 15p to 206p, show once again the logic behind Smith's timely shift into higher growth areas such as medical instruments from supplying components to the automotive industry.

Further cuts in borrowings saw another reduction in interest charges to £1.1 million while foreign exchange rates ruling at the end of the six month period bolstered results by £1.7 million. Total sales rose by £19 million to £197 million.

In the UK profit rose from £9.8 million to £11.8 million this time on turnover only just higher at £109 million. Overseas, mainly in the US, profit rose to £9.5 million from £6.2 million last time on turnover up by nearly £20 million to £92 million. In the US, Smith's aerospace and industrial operations made significant gains and both medical and marine activities improved profit satisfactorily.

Profit from aerospace activities improved to £6.9 million from £5.6 million while medical and surgical instrument

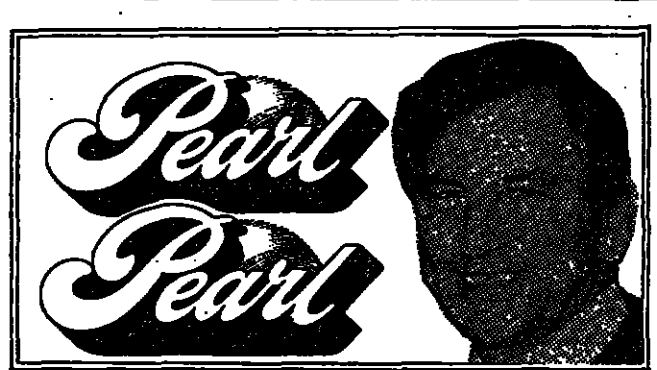
A £3.66 million bill for asbestos claims and losses of £9 million on reinsurance rocked Pearl Assurance's earnings last year. Net profits fell from £16.8 million to £14.55 million after non-life underwriting losses more than doubled. The City, which is becoming used to poor insurance results still winced and marked Pearl's shares down 50p.

In addition to bad weather, higher motor claims and inadequate premium rates which have caused underwriting losses to escalate over the last 12 months, Pearl has been particularly exposed to losses in the reinsurance market through its US offshoot Monarch Insurance. Monarch last £1.3 million in 1984 and according to Pearl's chairman Mr Robert Holland (pictured) "The fact is that the operation in the results of the Monarch in the later months of the year, due to the need to renege claims reserves for earlier years."

businesses pushed profit up to £8.7 million from £6.9 million. The combined Australian and South African operations earned profit slightly higher at £1.4 million but this covers a small trading loss in the South African business.

Sir Roy Sisson, Smith's chairman, said that profits since the half-year have continued ahead of last year's levels and this should be maintained over the full year. But the weighting of results, usually more marked in the second half, will not be so marked as the traditional pattern.

Included for the first time are contributions from Downs Surgical, Laidlaw over last March, and the Superdex group, bought last September.



More than half of Pearl's £9 million loss on reinsurance has come from business written by Monarch, and Mr Holland said that urgent action was being taken to deal with the company's problems. Pearl's underwriting loss of £16.8 million, up from £8.6 million in 1984, also reflects substantial increases from both domestic and overseas business. Asbestos claims from policies written in Canada have cost Pearl

£3.66 million out of a total overseas loss of £4.27 million, and have been treated as an exceptional item. In the UK which turned in an overall deficit of £7.02 million the heaviest losses were on the property and motor accounts which deteriorated sharply. Helped by £16.13 million of life profits which rose from £14.09 million in 1983 Pearl is lifting the dividend to 38p from 33p.

The group is paying a half-time dividend of 15p which, after taking account of the recent scrip issue and share split, is a 26 per cent increase of last time. Last year's profit before tax of £36.1 million looks set to be easily beaten this year.

The final dividend is 15p which makes a total payment of 25p for the year compared with 15p last year. Stanley's shares rose 2p to 52p

million from £596,000 last time helped by a substantial cut in costs, particularly interest charges, and a return to profit of the group's wallcovering unit. Even with the closure of several unprofitable stores Stanley's turnover increased by 2 per cent to £56 million.

Interest charges were cut to £152,000 compared with £407,000 and £25,000 profit was made on the sale of fixed assets against a loss last time of £149,000. Tax, however, was higher at £908,000 leaving net profit at £873,000 against £440,000.

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Flush at
Fitch

Fitch & Company, the design consultancy which won a full stock market listing last year after two years on the USM, yesterday reported a 90 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £1.3 million in 1984. Group turnover grew from £1.4 million to £5.9 million.

Mr David Legg, the chairman, said that the company's growth during 1984 was excellent with all divisions performing strongly in a buoyant market. The profits growth was helped by the creation of three new divisions to handle shopping centre, products and building design to reflect the continuing high level of demand for specialist management services in the UK. Fitch has also improved its management and information systems, including £200,000 investment in a fully integrated computer system.

This year's figures will be helped by reorganisation of the group's overseas operations to concentrate resources in London. Fitch offices in the Middle East were closed and their work now handled from London, helping offset overseas trading losses which amounted to £300,000 last year.

Over the
worst

The closure and retrenchment measures announced by Molins, the cigarette and packaging machinery engineer, are costing more than the profit

made over the past two years, but the worst seems to be over in most areas of operation. In the absence of any new diversification moves, there must still be some doubts about prospects in the medium term.

After a modest recovery in tobacco machinery sales in the second half, turnover edged ahead to £13.5 million from £12.94 million. Corrugated board machinery sales accounted for £46 million, an increase of just over half on the previous year. Pre-tax profit was still well down at £5.8 million, against £7.6 million, as a result of the slump in the tobacco machinery surplus. Fierce competition from the Continent and the delay in acceptance of a new high-speed model lopped £7.5 million off the previous profit in this area, leaving it at £4.9 million. The turnaround in the US was complemented by the switch to a net interest income of £200,000.

The dividend stays at 7.5p net a share, including the 5.7p final.

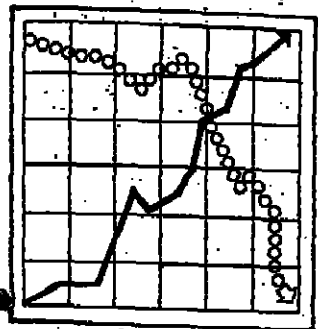
Soaring
Aurora

Aurora, the basic engineering group, confirmed the recovery ahead of most in the metalworking, forging or fastenings areas with record profit last year. Although turnover was not as high as in past years when the group dived dangerously with special steels, it rose steeply and orders ended a fifth up. Pre-tax profit soared to £6.6 million, from £3.2 million, building on the multiple improvement at the interim stage. Sales were £13.4 million ahead at £10.43 million.

THE STOCK EXCHANGE

British Funds	21st 11 1984	1042	Pro Fin	2216 +3	Bentley	89 +1	Credit Int	134 +1	Holme	223	Morris J	280	Nicholls	47 +1	World	610	R & G Inc	300	OR		Barclays	405	Trafford P	4203
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The rich push the poor out of work



ECONOMICS

Christopher Huhne

EVERYONE should be now fully aware that the Government believes that unemployment is the fault of the unemployed—they or their unions priced themselves out of jobs.

The only snag with this politically convenient view is that the evidence suggests something entirely different. If anything, over the last few years, it has been the rich who have priced the poor out of jobs.

The earnings figures in the chart have important implications for government policy on unemployment, as revealed in all its lack of splendour in the budget and the White Paper "Employment: The Challenge for the Nation". The conclusion that the rich have been getting big pay rises while the poor get small ones cuts right across the traditional debate about wages between Keynesians and neo-classicals.

Both schools think wages are crucial. On the Keynesian view, high money wage increases cause inflation which the Government can only combat with direct measures like incomes policy or by depressing the economy and letting unemployment rise.

On the neo-classical view, an excessive increase in real wages—after allowing for price rises—pushes workers out of jobs directly in the same way that high prices cut demand for bananas.

But both views have traditionally been formulated in the aggregate, looking at the whole economy. They have told us little about where the wage pressure may be coming from. The conventional wisdom among right wingers has been that the low paid have been a large cause of the problem. The supposed evidence being that they were hardest hit by unemployment. Thus almost all

the measures so far announced are designed to "free up" the labour market at the bottom end by easing workers into low paid jobs.

But the figures show that the wage problem is almost entirely at the top of the income distribution, where people have been romping away with hefty increases in money in real terms.

The policy of hitting the low paid is therefore likely to be both inefficient—in that it won't tackle the problem—and, deeply inequitable in that it will have the effect of depressing the real wages of the low paid even further.

Yet hit the low paid the Government almost certainly will. The restructuring of National Insurance contributions whereby the low paid now face lower graduated rates of contribution, payable on all their income when they reach the thresholds, will make it cheaper to employ the young and unskilled.

But it will make it a lot more expensive to give them pay rises in return for upskilling or security as Professors King and Atkinson argued in the Guardian of March 22.

The provision whereby sacked employees will have to have been in a job for two years before they lodge a complaint, for unfair dismissal, could too easily be used to discourage the low paid on their toes despite their meagre rewards, while the abolition of at least teeth-drawing of the wages councils, which set legal minimum wages, will also tend to reduce low-paid wages.

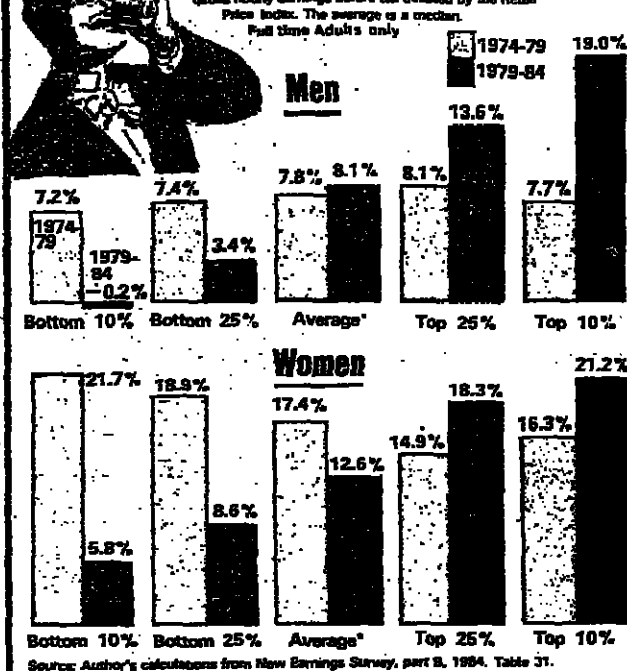
The Government's attitude towards the wages councils—for the Chancellor they "destroy jobs"—would be altogether easier to accept if it did not form part of a presentational package in which the poor appear to be made scapegoats for our economic problems.

Certainly, there are perfectly good grounds for abolition of the councils. At the margin, it is probable that some people who would otherwise be unemployed will find low-paid work.

But this effect is not going to be substantial, as a background study prepared for—but not yet published by—the Department of Employment shows. The report on the wages councils covering the retail trades concludes that "very few of the firms we surveyed volunteered the view that the level of pay on its own was an important determinant of their employment policy."

It's the poor who gets the blame...

Real wage increases/decreases by income group
Gross hourly earnings before tax divided by the Retail Price Index. The average is a median.
Full-time adults only



"It was their wage-bill in relation to their ability to pay determined by the state of their trade to which they drew our attention rather than the level of pay per se. The vast majority re-emphasised this by anticipating an increase in their employment only if trade increased."

The Government's own consultative paper on the wages councils shows that only one million of the 2.75 million workers covered by wages councils are actually paid the minimum decreed rates. The rest were paid more.

True, there are other reasons for abolishing wages councils. There is little point in having a wages floor effectively imposed by the social security system and another one expensively administered by the Wages Inspectorate.

On grounds of equity, it also makes sense to concentrate help to the poor through the benefits system as many of the low paid are in fact second earners in households, and poverty tends to be determined more by special needs—such as those of large families—rather than low pay.

But the "New Right" wants to erode the benefits system too. Indeed, the Treasury is looking for savings from the Fowler reviews of social security. It

is of course possible to eliminate unemployment by eliminating benefits, particularly since the Government now defines unemployment by those claiming benefits. People could be starved back to work. But the object of the benefit system is to reduce poverty, and no sane person can seriously argue that rises in benefits have been the cause of the record increase in unemployment since 1979.

In fact, benefits have been cut. Earnings related benefits have gone; housing benefits have been pared; supplementary benefit has been raised only in line with prices rather than earnings.

The average gap between the benefit of those out of work and their pay in work has risen. The Institute for Fiscal Studies has shown that the "unemployment trap" never large, is now even smaller.

The worst of it is that a further concerted attempt to reduce low pay really does not guarantee that unemployment will come down. The dramatic skewing in the gross earnings distribution (the after tax figures are even worse since 1979) means that low pay rises for the poor could only too easily be absorbed in higher pay rises for the high paid rather than more jobs—exactly as they have been since 1979.

On either a Keynesian or a neo-classical view, the real question is how to get all of us to share our wage increases, not how to accelerate a decline in the lot of the employed or unemployed poor who have already suffered enough for others' unchecked greed.

One answer is an incomes policy of some sort to ensure that increases in demand are channelled into jobs not pay. Until the Chancellor comes up with a convincing alternative, his "budget for jobs" will remain his-named and self-serving sham.

"Pay and Employment in Four Retail Trades" by Christine Craig and Frank Wilkinson, DAE Labour Studies Group University of Cambridge.

that they will produce their own engines.

ARG is thought to be planning to manufacture 80,000 "BX" models for itself in the UK, and 10,000 "HX" versions for Honda to sell in the European market as a fully-fledged European Community produced cars. In Japan, Austin Rover will have an initial 10,000 models of the "BX" built by Honda, largely for sale in Japan but also for export to the Australian market in particular, while Honda admits to producing a conservative 45,000 units of its "HX" version for sale in its domestic market.

Given that the annual Japanese new car market is in excess of 3 million vehicles, and the UK alone in excess of 1.7 million, the initial production targets for the "XX" are tiny. In some ways, Austin Rover's attack on the Japanese market has been the most significant. Last year, only 42,000 foreign built cars were sold in Japan, of which 32,000 were West German de luxe Mercedes, Porsche and BMW models.

But the impact on the UK car manufacturing industry will, in reality, prove far more significant. BL has managed to make 70,000 vehicles a year but is producing 300,000 units less than its maximum capacity. Certainly, if the "XX" project goes free of all the projected costs, BL is not going to spend heavily to build a new production capacity when ARG's Cowley and Longbridge plants are open to the public.

But increased domestic manufacture by Nissan, and by Honda through the ARG outlets, could simply result in Japanese producers taking a greater share of the UK market at the expense of the established domestic groups, Ford, Vauxhall and BL itself, by bypassing the import restrictions on the British car market while creating new jobs within the motor industry.

On the other hand, Nissan production facilities, and the increased involvement of Honda with BL, leads to UK manufacturers gaining a larger slice of the European market overall, then the establishment of Japanese manufacturing capabilities in Britain could lead to a regeneration of the domestic car industry, as the creation of more jobs, both directly and indirectly.

But the most revolutionary development could be the changes rung in British industrial relations. It is expected that Nissan will announce later this month that its workers will have single union representation, probably the EPTU, providing the springboard for the go-ahead for its phase two production plant.

Whether the unions' in their short-term anxiety to encourage new employment in the North East, have weighed the consequences of their espousal of Japanese style industrial relations, remains to be seen.



SIMPLY SUCCESSFUL: Tom Watson starts his challenge for a third US Masters title today. Picture by Kenneth Saunders

David Davies reports from Augusta

Watch for Watson

GOLF

Tom Watson, twice a winner, has the secret to playing the Augusta National Golf Club and taking the US Masters title. "All you have to do," he says, "is hit the ball with a touch of draw, make the putts and avoid the water. You just have to miss the aqua here."

A simple formula, but then

in golf genius is simplicity, and Watson, at times, possesses both. For that reason he is the strong favourite to take his third Masters—this year's event starts today—although Severiano Ballesteros is not far behind him.

Both of them have the ability to make the most of the par-fives at Augusta, where the big hitters can get up in two, and both of them have the great putters. Watson, in

addition to winning, has finished no worse than 12th since 1977, and has three seconds, a fourth and a fifth to go with it.

Ballesteros, also a two green jackets, and the general consensus, even among the intensely parochial American professionals, is that he has the ability to be the best in the world. But his record when not winning does not compare with that of Watson, and he depends a great deal more on inspiration than do his championship-winning contemporaries.

Ballesteros, whose birthday it was on Tuesday, appears a relaxed man this week, in the past a preoccupation for winning. This is one of his favourite courses, and while you might not bet against Watson this week, you certainly would not against Ballesteros either.

In a pre-tournament "sweep-style" choice, four British golf writers selected, in order, Ballesteros, Watson, Bernard Langer, Jack Nicklaus, Greg Norman and Fuzzy Zoeller as their choices for the tournament.

Jack Nicklaus has been the most successful. Ballesteros, excepted, of the Europeans, but to think of him this week is to think of the greens, and to see him yesterday, tortured against the greens, was a sight to behold. The greens are slick, getting slicker, and no place to be for a man with doubts.

The same goes for Sandy Lyle, who yesterday, consulted Tom Jacklin over his poor putting in Greensboro. Jacklin passed on the tip that Bert Yancey gave him before Jacklin won the US Open in 1970: "Line up the put, step up to the ball and hit it without further ado."

As this could be a description of Lyle's normal approach, it may not be too helpful, and certainly on the first green yesterday he left a 15-footer his usual six inches short.

There is a serious doubt about Norman being able to play. He has been suffering from a virus and was unable to get to the course on Tuesday. So he could miss the season's first championship. Should he play, however, he could be more dangerous than ever, for the old adage about a wounded golfer being the most effective one frequently runs true.

Torrance played a practice round with Arnold Palmer and later described it as being the most important part of his preparation. Palmer pointed out a few lines that had not been obvious to me, and which will be of great help.

In general, championships are won by experienced commentators and Tom Kite is certainly that. He was in a good position to win last year, leading after three rounds, but could do nothing about the way Ben Crenshaw putted in the final round.

Winning respect

THE SIGHT of a golfer surrounded by a gaggle of hunters is a sight one can only see in the US Masters. But when the golfer is black, the fans are white and the location is Augusta, Georgia, in the Deep South, then that represents if not a revolution, at least a welcome change.

This year Calvin Peete is playing in his sixth Masters and, he says, feels at home for the first time. "That old saying that golf is a white man's game is long gone," he says. "I used to feel very intimidated when I came here. Intimidated with the greens, the galleries, even with the press. I felt there was no way I could have a good tournament."

Two years ago he was heckled, the word "nigger" was used, and Peete, clearly upset, missed the cut. "Now I feel much more relaxed," he says. "Being black doesn't motivate me to win here. Two passed the stage of wanting to be an excellent black player. I just want to be respected by my peers."

Since his win in the Tournament Players Championship, of course, that respect has been freely given, for all Americans believe that the field for that event is the strongest in the world. Peete, aged 41, believes he is playing better than ever after a winter regime of lifting weights and jogging. He has gained length, and thinks that that gives him a real chance at Augusta.

AS JAPAN promises yet again to take measures to open its doors wider to foreign imports, the most immediately sensitive area of its trading activities with the UK is likely to prove the next stage of Japanese manufacturers' assault on the domestic car market.

Two of the top Japanese car makers, Nissan and Honda, are scheduled to begin their first UK production operations within the next year. The initial production activities, however, are not in relation to the overall market and can only be regarded as pilot schemes which could pave the way for more concrete manufacturing investments.

But at this stage, it seems almost certain that it will be Nissan which pushes ahead with a full-scale manufacturing plant in the UK while Honda, despite rumours to the contrary, will restrict its British involvement to the production of a few cars for the launch of its new car model, rather than building its own production facility at the Swindon site it has bought.

By a "gentlemen's agreement," Japan's car makers currently limit their exports to the UK to a 1 per cent market share. Production plants in the UK would be the base not for an out-and-out attack on the British market, but as the launching pad for an increased sales drive into the European Community where, in general, the Japanese are restricted to a far lower market share than in the UK itself.

Facilities in the UK with the vehicles being produced having an 80 per cent local content, would allow groups like Nissan to set up freely within the Community.

Nissan's first phase of development, the establishment of a car assembly plant at Washington, Co Durham, due to come on stream next June, will not increase its access to either the UK or Community markets. The assembly plant is simply a trail blazer for a full production facility. Employing about 470 workers, it will assemble kits imported from Japan, turning out a modest 24,000 cars a year which will replace current Nissan direct exports from Japan to the UK.

Nissan spokesmen happily confirm that there is no commercial logic in its £30 million assembly plant. It would be more profitable to continue to import vehicles from Japan and that the plant is being established only to set the scene for a full manufacturing operation.

By 1987, the group will decide whether it is feasible to push ahead with phase two, a manufacturing plant employing 2,700 workers and turning out 100,000 vehicles a year. Even then, Nissan admits, might not be truly commercial and phase two in turn would need to be followed by a further expansion to a plant making at least 200,000 vehicles a year, for the Japanese group to make a mean-



Nissan executives... hoping to ring the changes in industrial relations

Japanese car makers plan a trail-blazing campaign in Britain. David Simpson reports
Setting the scene for an all-out assault

ingful increase in its European market share and to obtain a genuine return on its investment.

The trigger for Nissan to proceed with its plans, and it seems almost certain that it will do so, is the industrial relations it is able to establish with the different trade unions to be employed at Washington.

While many other Japanese concerns have set up shop in the UK, Nissan is the first to employ members of several trade unions, and its success in negotiating an industrial relations agreement closer to the traditional Japanese single plant, single union system will not only ultimately determine whether phase two is approved but could govern the level of future Japanese inward investment to the UK.

A spokesman at Nissan's Tokyo headquarters spelled out the four conditions the group is seeking: good industrial relations; the realisation of single status union representation; equal opportunity for promotion; and flexibility in working practices.

"If these objectives cannot be agreed, the plant will be a failure," he said. But Nissan is confident its aims can be achieved and that phase two will proceed, with a £800 million minimum investment, including the in-

stallation of the most advanced available robotic systems. Nissan's determination to move into full production in the UK is endorsed by the fact that it has won a six per cent share of the UK market, but that of the total 240,000 cars it sold in the Community last year, 102,000 were bought in Britain. If its cars can be so greatly in demand in the UK, it argues, then it can overcome the EC trade barriers, there must be equally strong markets in other Common Market countries.

Honda sees matters in a very different light. There have been strong rumours that the group, the last of the large Japanese industrial corporations to enter car manufacturing on a large scale, and the one most dependent upon export sales, will build a full production plant at Swindon.

Honda pours cold water on the idea. A Tokyo spokesman laid out the two main criteria Honda employs in deciding whether it should build a manufacturing plant. One is that there must be an identifiable local market for its cars, the other is that it must be certain it can earn sufficient profits.

As far as either the UK or the Common Market was concerned, the spokesman said, there is no evidence of any real demand for the type of cars which Honda makes, as the market for the smaller more compact cars in which it specialises is already satisfied by European producers.

Like Nissan, Honda is insistent that the volume of cars produced must be considerable if a manufacturing operation is to be viable. Honda has built, and is expanding, a highly profitable new plant in the US and has now decided to build a plant in Canada. This factory will initially turn out 40,000 vehicles a year, but Honda states that this level of production would not in itself be profitable, were it not for the cost-savings to be supplied through linking the plant with the US factory.

Instead, Honda's siege, as such, on the EEC market seems destined to be conducted through closer links with BL's car making subsidiary, Austin Rover Group. The most significant venture to date between the two is the joint production of the executive car, code-named "XX", to be jointly built in Britain and Japan.

The Honda version, named "HX", will be launched this autumn with ARG's "BX" version following in the first half of 1986. The cars will share a chassis, but the body will be different, while the two groups have now more or less finally decided

that they will produce their own engines.

ARG is thought to be planning to manufacture 80,000 "BX" models for itself in the UK, and 10,000 "HX" versions for Honda to sell in the European market as a fully-fledged European Community produced cars. In Japan, Austin Rover will have an initial 10,000 models of the "BX" built by Honda, largely for sale in Japan but also for export to the Australian market in particular, while Honda admits to producing a conservative 45,000 units of its "HX" version for sale in its domestic market.

Given that the annual Japanese new car market is in excess of 3 million vehicles, and the UK alone in excess of 1.7 million, the initial production targets for the "XX" are tiny. In some ways, Austin Rover's attack on the Japanese market has been the most significant. Last year, only 42,000 foreign built cars were sold in Japan, of which 32,000 were West German de luxe Mercedes, Porsche and BMW models.

But the impact on the UK car manufacturing industry will, in reality, prove far more significant. BL has managed to make 70,000 vehicles a year but is producing 300,000 units less than its maximum capacity. Certainly, if the "XX" project goes free of all the projected costs, BL is not going to spend heavily to build a new production capacity when ARG's Cowley and Longbridge plants are open to the public.

But increased domestic manufacture by Nissan, and by Honda through the ARG outlets, could simply result in Japanese producers taking a greater share of the UK market at the expense of the established domestic groups, Ford, Vauxhall and BL itself, by bypassing the import restrictions on the British car market while creating new jobs within the motor industry.

On the other hand, Nissan production facilities, and the increased involvement of Honda with BL, leads to UK manufacturers gaining a larger slice of the European market overall, then the establishment of Japanese manufacturing capabilities in Britain could lead to a regeneration of the domestic car industry, as the creation of more jobs, both directly and indirectly.

But the most revolutionary development could be the changes rung in British industrial relations. It is expected that Nissan will announce later this month that its workers will have single union representation, probably the EPTU, providing the springboard for the go-ahead for its phase two production plant.

Whether the unions' in their short-term anxiety to encourage new employment in the North East, have weighed the consequences of their espousal of Japanese style industrial relations, remains to be seen.

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Since his win in the Tournament Players Championship, of course, that respect has been freely given, for all Americans believe that the field for that event is the strongest in the world. Peete, aged 41, believes he is playing better than ever after a winter regime of lifting weights and jogging. He has gained length, and thinks that that gives him a real chance at Augusta.

EUROPEAN SEMI-FINAL SOCCER NIGHT

David Lacey — Liverpool 4, Panathinaikos 0

Liverpool take commanding lead

Liverpool reached the third round of their first European Cup Final last night when their imaginative football and ruthless finishing proved too much for the Greek champions, Panathinaikos, in the first leg of their semi-final at Anfield. After Wark and Rush, with two goals in a minute, had demolished the opposition's defence Beglin completed a 4-0 victory for Liverpool with a late header and now they seem likely to meet Juventus in the final in Brussels.

If Liverpool went into the match somewhat alarmed at their opponents' record of penalties on demand, their minds must have been reassured by the revelation that Panathinaikos were being aided by Malcolm Allison, the Alpha and Omega of Manchester City.

For all that, the Greeks approached the game in an utterly orthodox manner, with nine men and a goalkeeper back behind the ball in a defensive system marking man for man with a sweeper, Mavridis towered over Rush like Polyphemus and as Dalglish immediately had his goal, Dettas, beaten for speed on the turn Andfield began entertaining hopes that the Panathinaikos might prove to be collectively one-eyed.

The trouble Latsis had in dealing with a 38-year-old striker from Macdonald that bounced awkwardly in front of him — he failed to hold the ball and then turned round to grab it just before it crossed the line — did nothing to dispel the feeling.

With green shirts massing in front of them, Liverpool's final passes had a special need for accuracy and imagination. In the 10th minute one such movement arrived. Wark neatly chested a ball from Dalglish through a gap to send Rush clear on the right. But even as the Liverpool fans roared their greeting of a goal, Rush sent his shot past the far post.

Ten minutes later Anfield hearts missed a beat as Grobbelaar let a 30-yard drive from the Argentinian Rocha slip through his arms by the right-hand post and over the

line. But the Dutch referee had spotted Panathinaikos player standing offside so the Liverpool goalkeeper's bluster was spared.

The general pattern was one of Liverpool pouring men forward but attacking with patience and precision. No one was more patient or precise than Dalglish, as he carefully worked out his angles, and nobody hunted free space more diligently than Rush, forever pursued by the burly, blackbearded Mavridis.

As Latsis dealt more competently with another long shot from Macdonald, so the Panathinaikos defence gained something in composure. Liverpool's movements were becoming mechanical as Rocha was starting to worry them by mounting swift, penetrative counterattacks.

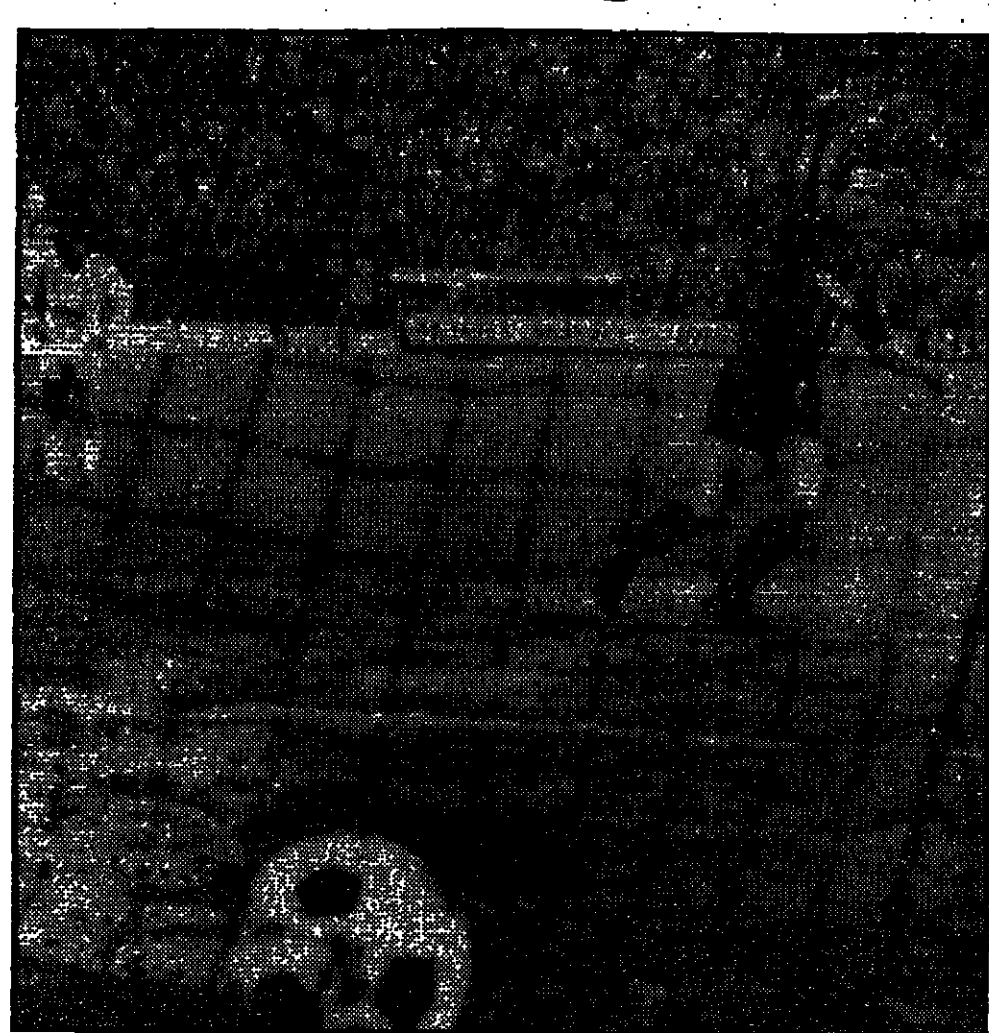
Just past the half hour Rush rose well at the far post to meet a free kick from Dalglish, but headed wide. Liverpool were showing signs of exasperation, but in the 35th minute Latsis made another error, and they were in the lead.

Lee laid the ball square to Macdonald, who tried yet another long, low shot. Latsis, seeing the ball late and reacting slowly, could only push it onto a post and Wark pounced to score for the rebound.

Latsis received a round of grateful applause from the Kop at the start of a second half but Liverpool could not afford to let the matter rest there. In the 48th and 49th minutes Rush re-discovered his scoring touch and the holders were virtually assured of a place in the final. Dalglish began a bout of passing which ended with Whelan finding Rush unmarked in the goalmouth and he scored with a simple header. Then Lee intercepted a poor clearance and centred promptly from the right for Rush to run in, unmarked again, and Liverpool were three ahead.

A crowd of more than 70,000, producing club record receipts of £600,000, saw Richardson deny Bayern an early lead when he cleared off the line from Rummenigge after a corner. Richardson, as expected, took the injured Sheedy's place on the left side of midfield with Harper on the right and Steven moving up front to cover for Gray, another of Saturday's casualties.

Some of Everton's tacking irritated the crowd, though they had the decency to maintain an embarrassed silence when the worst foul of all was committed by Lerby, who dug into Mountfield's shirt after the first half that ended goalless despite the repeated probbings



BRADY BREAKTHROUGH: Inter Milan's Irishman salutes his penalty success against Real Madrid

Patrick Barclay — Bayern Munich 0, Everton 0

Everton on edge of final

Everton moved into the European big time last night and, unabashed, kept their seventh consecutive clean sheet of the Cup-Winners' Cup campaign. A goalless draw in the Olympic Stadium, where Bayern Munich squandered the few chances that came their way, leaves the Goodison club firm favourites to reach their first European final in Rotterdam next month.

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of a West German midfield to which Matthias Reim added precision.

Mountfield blocked a drive from Augenthaler after a corner, but again Everton refused to let themselves come under sustained pressure. Assiduous midfield marking kept Bayern on the hop, making the Germans play across the field more often than they would have wished: a feeling familiar to Everton's First Division opponents.

Howard Kendall's side might even have gone ahead in the 61st minute, during their best attacking spell. A foul by Phelger on Bracewell produced a free-kick. Rummenigge lofted the ball forward to Richardson, whose miskick attempt at a shot rolled to Sharp in space 12 yards out to the left of goal with only the keeper in the way. Sharp fired his shot, which went well wide of the near post.

Bayern Munich: Pfaff, Dremmler, Wilmner, Eder, Augenthaler, Lerby, Phelger, Maizmann, Holtes, Rummenigge, Reim, Enders, Schuster, Stegmann, Van den Hamme, Sharp, Bracewell, Richardson. Referee: P. Bergmann (Italy).

David Irvine reports from Dallas

Lendl must fight clock

TENNIS

IVAN LENDL'S first match in the WCT finals in Dallas, a quarter-final with Sweden's Stefan Edberg, has been delayed until tomorrow night because of the Czech's hectic schedule this week. On Sunday Lendl was in the Monte Carlo final and on Tuesday he was required as witness in a Connecticut traffic court — apparently his car was rammed while he was waiting at a turnpike.

But WCT officials are not dithering. Lendl, a great favourite to regain the title he won in 1982, the Czech must now win three best-of-five set matches in considerably less than 48 hours. Nor are they run-of-the-mill encounters. If he survives against Edberg, to whom he lost at Delray Beach in February, he will almost certainly have to beat Jimmy Connors to get at John McEnroe in Sunday's final.

It is not so much the opposition as the timetable, however, that bothers Lendl. To get nationwide television coverage WCT agreed with CBS, who have already contracted to show the Masters golf in Augusta, to start Saturday's semi-finals at 10 am and Sunday's final half-hour earlier than that. That is what international tennis has come to. Again, the tail wags the dog.

Not that anyone seems to give a row of beans for Lendl's chances. There has never been a hotter favourite for the WCT title than McEnroe, who seems eager to become the first to win here three years running. His record on indoor carpet courts is awesome — 67 successive victories since Lendl stopped him at San Francisco in September, 1983.

With Connors likely to play after all—despite a back injury he was practising within an hour of his arrival—no one would disagree with WCT's claim that they

have the strongest entry in the tournament's 15 years. Yet the only real point at issue seems to be who will finish runner-up. Potentially Lendl's game is the best to challenge McEnroe but it is a matter of the Czech's asking much of the Czech to find top form here. Though carpet is also his favourite surface, Lendl has just spent a week on clay and before that a week on cement.

As he left Monte Carlo, Lendl said: "Sooner or later, this chopping and changing is bound to catch up with me." It may well be sooner: maybe in his match with Edberg, an impressive 1-6, 6-2, 6-7, 6-3 winner over his Swedish doubles partner Anders Jarryd.

Edberg, the first player ever to win the junior Grand Slam in 1983, has made a great start to the year and of the newcomers is one of the best. He has the necessary qualities to become a champion. His positive attacking style is a refreshing antidote to fellow-Swedes who have his body out of trouble and touch down. Hyde gave the Castleford supporters even more cause for jubilation by adding the goal points.

After 10 minutes the game was given precisely the incident it did not need in a charged atmosphere. Kemble was fouled by a late tackle — Orum was singled out as the culprit and was carried off on a stretcher with his legs strapped.

Bunting, the Hull coach, was clearly incensed, but did not help the atmosphere by going on to the field and remonstrating with John McDonald. The referee hurried him back to the touch-line, but Bunting reappeared, to be shooed away this time by a touch judge.

After Joyner's pass had been intercepted, the ball went through seven pairs of Hull hands as Bull produced the best football in the minute. Crooks came into the move twice, and it was from his final pass that O'Hara raced over in the left corner. Crooks added a fine goal from the touch line in the 15th minute.

Within the next seven minutes the 6-6 score had been made 12-12. Sterling engineered a superb try for himself when he put Rockley under pressure with a perfectly-judged high kick. When the ball bounced into the hands of players, Sterling was there to plunge over the line.

Castleford answered by a try from Rockley after Beardmore had twice advanced on dangerous runs through the middle, the second time being hauled down by a yard short. Hull went ahead once more when Crooks and Muggleton sent James clear on the right, and they extended their lead through another try from Leulani in the 38th minute. Crooks added the goal.

Reilly replaced Wilson in a first half which ended late and in a brawl, but the Castleford coach was going to need all his experience if he was to help rescue this increasingly desperate cause.

The boys' No 2 seed, Jason Goodall, injured an ankle four weeks ago and was withdrawn to leave his Yorkshire colleague David Drake with a walkover into the quarter-finals, where he faces Austin Brice.

Miss Mair had not played any tournaments for at least two months and was clearly lacking in confidence, particularly in the strain of seeing the top seed. She was not match fit.

Jo Louis of Devon now assumes the mantle of favourite and lines up against Jackie Holden of Yorkshire for a place in the finals after her 6-1, 6-1 dismissal of Nottinghamshire's Amanda Gregory.

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RUGBY LEAGUE

Paul Fitzpatrick

Hull 22

Castleford 16

Hull find

Wembley

answer

Hull will meet Wigan in the

Sikh Cut Challenge Cup Final

at Wembley on May 4 after

beating Castleford in a thur-

derous replayed semi-final at

Headingley last night. Hull try

Chapman were compressed into

a first half which never paused

for breath.

The first semi-final replay

since 1972 was given the finest

of starts when Castleford went

six points ahead after only two

minutes.

Wilson, set free by Joyner,

pass with players inside and

outside him. From the pay-the-

ball, though, the ball went via

Johnson and Kevin Beardmore

to Hyde, who was tackled on

the line but was able to twist

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BBC-1

6 00 am Cee-fax AM. 6 50 Breakfast Time. 9 20 Battle of the Planets. 9 40 The Monkeys. 10 50 Why Don't You... 10 55 Ray School. 10 55 Bonanza. 11 40 Kops - a Rock for all Seasons. 12 30 pm News After Noon. 12 57 Regional News. 1 00 Pebble Mill At One. 1 45 Trumpton. 2 00 Racing from Cheltenham. 3 40 Cartoon Double Bill. 3 53 Regional News (except London and Scotland). 3 55 Mop and Sniff. 4 10 I've Got the Engine. 4 15 Jigsaw. 4 30 Bananaman. 4 35 Dogtanian and the Three Musketeers. 5 00 John Craven's Newsround. 5 05 Blue Peter. Cee-fax sub-titles. 5 35 Dr Kildare.

6 00 NEWS: Weather News.

6 35 REGIONAL NEWS MAGAZINES.

7 00 EASTENDERS. Cee-fax sub-titles.

7 30 TOMORROW'S WORLD. Presenter Howard Stablesford joins the science and technology team, as the returning series reports on a possible bubble solution to the Bermuda Triangle riddle.

7 55 TOP OF THE POPS. A live edition, introduced by John Peel and Janice Long.

8 30 A QUESTION OF SPORT. Bill Beaumont and Emylin Hughes lead out their celebrity teams for the last innings of the quiz series. David Coleman puts the questions. Cee-fax sub-titles.

9 00 NEWS: Weather News.

9 25 I WOKE UP ONE MORNING. Will a knees-up be the same without a drink to oil the wheels? Michael Angeli, Frederick Jaeger, Robert Gillespie and Peter Cuffey as the dying-out clinic inmates, nervously preparing for a social evening with their female fellow patients.

9 55 COVER UP. If you've been wondering what new body you're interested in, here it is. Keep wondering. Like whether they shouldn't be paying us to watch yet another load of imported tripe in the plastic packaged fantasy tradition of Remington Steele, Scarecrow and Mrs King... This one, which promises to be even worse, starts with a feature length opening explaining to anyone who cares how this glamorous fashion photographer and this male model-cum-explosives expert come to be using international photo assignments as a cover for their real jobs in - you should pardon the expression - Intelligence. Cee-fax sub-titles.

11 25 ROCKSCHOOL. More re-run advice for rock musicians in the making. 11 50 Weather: close.

BBC-2

6 30-7 00 am Open University. 9 00 Pages From Ceefax. 9 20 pm Film: Go Chase Yourself. 1998 comedy with Lucille Ball, Joe Foweraker. 3 40 Racing from Cheltenham. 4 30 Conversations with Willard Van Dyke.

5 25 NEWS with sub-titles; weather.

5 30 "AND IT'S CHARDSTOCK TO BAT..." And somehow that just has to be the inimitable John Arlott, taking an affectionate look at village cricket rivalry.

6 00 THE INVADERS: Dark Outpost. Roy Thinnes leads the antique SF fight against the aliens.

6 50 PHIL SILVERS as Sgt Bilko, in another comedy classic.

7 15 100 GREAT SPORTING MOMENTS: Olga Korbut. Another chance to see the effin Russian gymnast, star of the 1972 Munich Olympics, in action.

7 25 FUGARD'S PEOPLE. Extracts from his plays, including State of Immorality Act and Boesman and Lena, illustrate this portrait of South Africa's radical dramatist Athol Fugard.

8 30 TOPOL'S ISRAEL. Continuing his tour of his homeland with the tint of annual military service required of every Israeli, including international entertainers, Chaim Topol joins a unit on active service in the Lebanon before moving on to rather less sensitive territory round the Sea of Galilee.

9 00 YES MINISTER: The Whisky Trick. Cee-fax sub-titles.

9 30 FORTY MINUTES: Matters of Life and Death. In one month 15 desperately ill babies have been turned away from Guy's famous Evelina Children's Hospital - out of sight but not out of the minds of a caring and concerned staff who could help them. Harry Weisbloom's film looks at the human cost of government cuts on this one institution: a reduction in specialist staff, a whole ward lying empty, intensive care cots gathering dust.

10 10 JOAN ARMATRADE. Second half of the singer/songwriter's concert recorded at Birmingham's National Exhibition Centre.

11 00 NEWSNIGHT. 11 45 Weatherview.

11 50 ANIMATION NOW: Sing Beast. Another award-winning film from Canada. 12 00 Weekend Outlook. 12 50 Open University. 1 00

ITV London

6 15 am Good Morning Britain, including (9 40-10 20) Roland's Rag. 9 25 Headlines: Sesame Street. 10 25 Cartoon Time. 10 40 Marilyn Baker - Songwriter. 11 10 Fabulous Funnies. 11 30 About Britain. 12 00 Foxtales. 12 10 pm Mooncat & Co. 12 30 The Sullivan's. 1 00 News. 1 20 Home Cookery Club. 2 30 Falcon Crest. 2 55 News. 3 20 News. 3 30 News. 3 40 News. 3 50 News. 4 00 News. 4 10 News. 4 20 News. 4 30 News. 4 40 News. 4 50 News. 5 00 News. 5 10 News. 5 20 News. 5 30 News. 5 40 News. 5 50 News. 6 00 News. 6 10 News. 6 20 News. 6 30 News. 6 40 News. 6 50 News. 7 00 News. 7 10 News. 7 20 News. 7 30 News. 7 40 News. 7 50 News. 8 00 News. 8 10 News. 8 20 News. 8 30 News. 8 40 News. 8 50 News. 9 00 News. 9 10 News. 9 20 News. 9 30 News. 9 40 News. 9 50 News. 10 00 News. 10 10 News. 10 20 News. 10 30 News. 10 40 News. 10 50 News. 11 00 News. 11 10 News. 11 20 News. 11 30 News. 11 40 News. 11 50 News. 12 00 News. 12 10 News. 12 20 News. 12 30 News. 12 40 News. 12 50 News. 1 00 News. 1 10 News. 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First meeting since October for MacGregor and Scargill

Miners offered long-term deal for pit peace

By Keith Harper, Labour Editor

A long-term pay offer will be presented to the leaders of the National Union of Mineworkers today by Mr Ian MacGregor, the National Coal Board chairman, as a way of ensuring peace in the industry over the next critical period. The offer, to which the finishing touches were being put last night, would cover the gap of two years since the end of 1982 when the miners last received a pay increase and go into the next pay period until the autumn of 1986. It would have to be approved by the union's full negotiating committee and Mr Arthur Scargill, the NUM president. They will be meeting Mr MacGregor and his colleagues for the first time since last October when talks to resolve the miners' strike broke down at the conciliation service, Acas.

The miners have not received a pay increase since October 1982. They are en-

though senior managers are ready to accept some moves towards it.

Today's negotiating session between the NUM and the NCB will be followed by a consultative meeting to include not only the NUM but also the other two mining unions, the British Association of Colliery Management.

All three unions are concerned about the NCB's revised colliery review procedure, and will express the view that the NCB is apparently ignoring this procedure by attempting to close pits on the ground that several collieries suffered irreparable damage during the NUM strike.

One matter which will not be discussed today is the statement of miners dismissed during the dispute. In a statement yesterday, Mr MacGregor made it clear that full disciplinary action would continue to be taken against offenders.

Mr James Cowan, the NCB deputy chairman, said that as many as 71 coal faces had been lost during the strike, and an additional 42 were causing serious concern. According to Mr Cowan, the costs of recovering some pits would be extremely high, even to get them back to their former loss-making position.

At a meeting with leaders of the NUM yesterday, Mr Cowan refused to withdraw the NCB's statement of March 27 in which he indicated that some pits may have suffered such damage during the dispute that their future was in doubt. Mr Ken Sampey, NUM president, said that discussions had been "heated" and that the union's national officials would be meeting today to discuss whether to call a national delegate conference on future action.

Nacods complain that the board has decided to close pits like Bedwas in South Wales, and Frances in Scotland, by simply stating that they are at present unworkable. This bypasses the revised colliery review procedure.

Patrick Wintour adds: The Nottinghamshire miners area council yesterday referred a series of rule changes proposed by the miners' national executive to its lawyers. Mr Roy Lynk, the financial secretary of the Nottinghamshire NUM said the proposed rule changes would be put to an annual delegate meeting of the NUM which would make the position of the Nottinghamshire area "infinitely worse."

Another central point issue in today's talks is the NUM desire to press for a four-day, 32-hour week. It is one of the questions which has not been answered by the board al-

Private firm wins Porton drug sale deal

By Andrew Vetch, Medical Correspondent

A new privately-owned biotechnology firm has beaten multinationals including ICI, Glaxo, and Wellcome to win exclusive rights to market vaccines and drugs developed at the former general warfare laboratory at Porton Down, Wiltshire.

The Government has given Porton International first option on products and processes at the Centre for Applied Microbiology and Research (CAMR) in a multi-million pound deal. The centre has become a world leader in biotechnology since the Ministry of Defence handed it over to the Department of Health six years ago.

Porton International was cre-

ated by a British businessman, Mr Wensley Haydon-Baillie, chairman of the Walsham group of companies which sells, among other things, defence equipment and military manuals.

Walsham and its subsidiaries, including Optical and Electrical Coatings and J. H. Dalmeier, make advanced optical systems and thin film coatings for the defence market. Clients include West Germany, says the firm's annual report.

Another subsidiary, Lonsdale Technical Services, specialises in military manuals and technical services for the defence industry. Walsham and Porton International share London headquarters.

Mr Haydon-Baillie said yesterday that there was no link between Walsham and Porton International. Walsham has a successful record in high technology, a very small proportion of which is involved in defence work. It has no connection with Porton International or CAMR.

Ministers have gone to great lengths to distance the CAMR from its old role as the MoD's top secret centre for biological warfare.

The health minister, Mr Kenneth Clarke, did not mention Walsham when he announced the deal in a brief Commons answer before the Easter recess although his civil servants had investigated Mr Haydon-Baillie's business back-

ground before agreeing the arrangement.

Mr Haydon-Baillie, chairman of Porton International, and described by City sources as politically well-connected, said: "Porton International has no involvement in defence and CAMR has no involvement in defence, as far as I am aware, directly or indirectly. I cannot understand how you can draw any connection between defence and CAMR."

The deal looks attractive for both CAMR and Porton International. The first money-spinners to reach the market are likely to be a new herpes vaccine discovered by scientists at Birmingham University and a vaccine against AIDS developed at CAMR, a drug for

treating childhood leukaemia called "antileukemic factor" for paracetamol and aspirin poisoning, and a follicle stimulating hormone for treating infertile women.

Porton will buy the products at cost price and pay the Government 10 per cent of the royalties it receives from sales. CAMR, which lost 3 per cent of its 26 million Department of Health grant last year, will apply for a percentage of that money. Porton International is also committed to discussing the provision of a new \$10 million fermentation plant at CAMR.

The deal was welcomed by senior CAMR staff yesterday. "When you are developing something good you want to

use it," said one scientist. "For that you need a marketing organisation. Multinationals would swamp Porton International in its right size and has a growing reputation in the biotechnology market."

Mr Haydon-Baillie, 44, has Porton International 26 months ago. The group has Sprayed Laboratories, which helped fund the discovery of genetically engineered Factor 9 for haemophilia at the Royal Free Hospital, London, and will market the product in Europe, and a firm biotechnology equipment, Lab Fermentation. It has three United States subsidiaries, two in California and one in Washington.

JP puts brake on Sinclair car case

By Penny Chorlton

NICHOLAS Botting, the first person to be charged with driving a Sinclair C5 three-wheeler while under the influence of drink, yesterday had the case against him dismissed at Bow Street court.

His solicitor successfully argued that the C5 was not a motor vehicle and that the Metropolitan Police had thus wrongly prosecuted Mr Botting under the Road Traffic Act.

The magistrate, Mr William Robbins, agreed that the C5 was a cycle, and dismissed the case on a technicality. Mr Botting's solicitor, Mr Neil Howlett, said afterwards that his client had in one respect been lucky. "The prosecution made a mistake but they won't make it again."

Afterwards Mr Botting, of Hillside Avenue, Canterbury, a 22-year-old student at the University of Kent, said he had given up driving the C5. He had since passed his driving test and was now the owner of a rather old Hillman Imp.

He admitted after the hearing that he had been drinking heavily on the night of the Valentine's Ball in London when he was arrested and that he would not have attempted to drive a car, but when his friend, Kirsty Nightingale, won the C5 in a raffle at the ball he offered to help her try to get it safely home. The vehicle was stopped by police during the journey.

Miss Nightingale, aged 20, a secretary from Kensington, London, said she had been drinking and that she had been "a bit tipsy" but she had not been drunk. "I'm relieved that it's all been talked through now."

Both she and Mr Botting subsequently confirmed that



AFTER THE BALL — and after the aftermath: Nicholas Botting, Kirsty Nightingale and C5 outside Bow Street court

after the difficulties, Miss Nightingale won the C5 in the raffle. An Irish couple were the correct winners and Kirsty should have taken another prize.

The couple have been given the cash value of the

C5 — £399 — and Kirsty is hanging on to the machine until the victory ball on VE Day, May 8, when she will give it back.

Mr Oliver Baxter, organiser of the victory ball, said that the C5 would again be a raffle prize then.

Thatcher sets 3pc inflation target

Continued from page one

The decision was taken. "Student fees was done much too fast and when I got back — I was away — and actually looked at the details. It was too fast, particularly on a group of people who very much plan their budget."

Asked what would happen if the number of unemployed had not fallen significantly before the next election, she said: "The answer will still be the same — unless we create more businesses producing more goods and services, we shall not get more genuine jobs."

Mrs Thatcher can expect a hostile reaction from Opposition MPs when she returns to the Commons next week. The deputy leader of the Labour Party, Mr Roy Hattersley, yesterday joined in the attack on Mrs Thatcher's comments about "seeing off the miners."

He told a conference in Southampton that Mrs Thatcher wanted to "crow over people she believed she had defeated."

He added: "I think she wants to rub salt into the wounds of a democracy, not how to run a democracy."

Opposition critics have found sympathy with a few Tories who are worried about the Prime Minister's image being too forthright. But the Tories are likely to close ranks behind her.

Naval dockyard unions to fight takeover plans

By David Simpson

Business Correspondent

The Government's plans to contract out the management of the naval dockyards at Devonport and Rosyth came under fire yesterday from trade unionists and Opposition MPs who pledged action to block the proposals.

"There is no way the workforce will allow themselves to be treated like cattle," the chairman of the trade union congresses committee at Rosyth, Mr Jack Penman, said. "We will stand and fight."

No private company will come into Rosyth dockyard without bitter and full-scale industrial action.

Mr Penman, who earlier met local Labour MPs, Mr Gordon Brown and Mr Douglas, to discuss the Government proposals to be published next week, claimed that the privatisation of the dockyard's management will lead to the workforce losing its civil service status and rights.

Dr Brown, MP for Dumfriesshire East, said that the dockyards would be privatised on a seven-year franchise basis.

"Some 20 defence manufacturers have already been asked if they would tender for the franchise," Dr Brown said. "The Government intends to appoint private companies or agents to run the dockyards by 1987. The unions are being given a consultation period of only 12 weeks."

The Government's consultation document on the future of the dockyards, which will offer Royal Navy vessels, will arrive next week, but will come down powerfully in favour of offering the management of the yards to commercial enterprises.

As a result, Dr Brown said yesterday, private contractors would be offered a blank cheque for work worth up to \$4 billion a year.

"Private gain is being put before national security," he said. "There are no arrangements for what would happen in a national emergency like the Falklands if one of the private companies suddenly went bust."

Teachers discard exams disruption

Continued from page one

he is in favour of exploring what benefits Acas can provide us."

The teachers' side of the Burnham pay negotiating committee is to meet on Wednesday. The NAS/UNT is likely to have talks before then with the largest teaching union, the NUT, which has set its face against arbitration.

The NAS/UNT is ready for long-term confrontation over pay, with plans being laid for a far tougher campaign next year. Mr Smithies said: "There will be a level of action by NAS/UNT next year" which will put this year's action and last year's into the shade.

Pupils taking GCE and CSE exams in the summer term, which starts next week, are bound to be affected indirectly because timetables are severely disrupted by lightning strikes. However, an attempt led by Solihull members to empower the executive to make external exams a legitimate target was defeated by 576 votes to 334.

Mr Heath, a Solihull teacher, said that so far they had been prepared to go into battle with one hand tied behind their backs. A short sharp shock might benefit those affected by industrial action in schools.

Mr Derek Dixon, also from Solihull, said: "The last thing that any teacher wishes to do is to damage

the educational prospects of a pupil. Experience has convinced me that the ultimate sanction must be available in the arsenal."

The employers were using every weapon at their disposal to defeat teachers. "It has been, and it would be, a crying foulness for us to do anything less," he said.

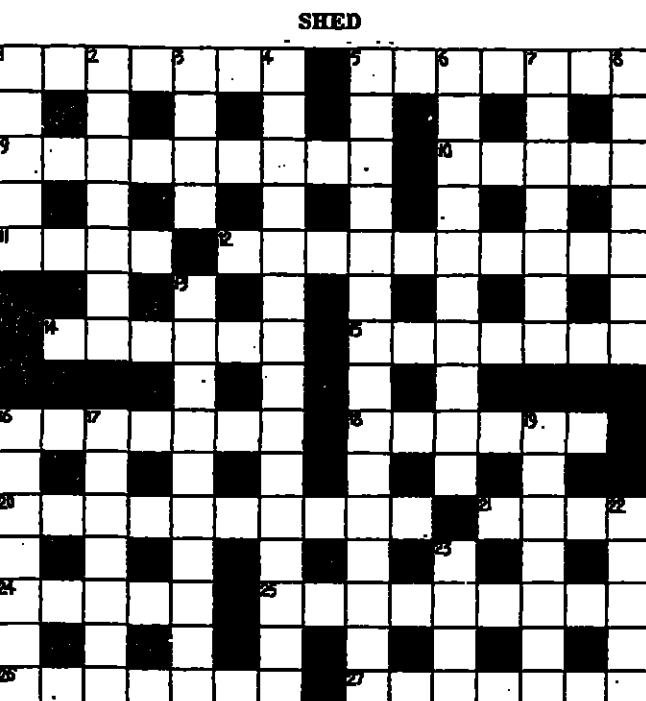
However, Mr Len Cooper, the union's treasurer, said that it had been decided not to directly affect examinations. "We made this decision because we recognised the importance of these exams to these youngsters in years five and six of the secondary schools and we know full well that many of these pupils have parents who lack the resources to relieve that loss."

John Fairhall adds: Mr Fred Jarvis, general secretary of the 268,000-strong NUT, welcomed the decision not to disrupt exams. It left the way clear for closer co-operation between the two unions on their pay campaigns.

The NUT's conference in Scarborough refused to debate on a motion that no member should investigate at summer exams. A proposal to suspend standing orders for the debate was heavily defeated.

The proposition emphasised the NUT's wish that exams should proceed undisturbed and said that to do so examination boards should pay investigators £5 an hour.

GUARDIAN CROSSWORD 17,207



ACROSS

- Lash out: not elevated, not profound (7).
- Hacker's partner takes in revolutionary (7).
- Slight inclination characterising the semi-conscious (4, 1, 4).
- A party without the painter? Chargeable falsehood! (5).
- One who is bitter, perhaps? (4).
- Canteen reflected in new bride of one who is not what he may appear (10).
- Stretched, and right to be plagued about it (6).
- Sit out, come in — same difference to the painter (7).
- Having lost (an) go to second Italian city (7).
- Car people rake out money (6).
- Let's hang out round New York — where the desperate go to? (3, 7).
- Having reached the highest point at work (4).

DOWN

- Master offers greetings: Bachelors turn round (5).
- Incorrect speech is not about reviewing Elm Disease (7).
- Principal clue (4).
- Attendant taking overdose forgot about fruitless vigil (7, 5).
- Bats hang upside down: our ancestor Sam has a two jumper (3, 2, 1, 5, 4).
- Scout goes out and about in the way of the road leading to disaster (10).
- German town in which to prepare lamb and pre-cessions (7).
- Extend general order (7).
- Get accommodation in a fraction of the time (10).
- Haunter of non-U haunts in the Englishman in Australia (7).
- Seducer the first Euro-Communist on the terraces, for instance (7).
- Valiant sort of East European (7).
- Bit into party at church (5).
- Foundry quietly on the mountain (4).

CROSSWORD SOLUTION 17,206

ACROSS
1 LASH OUT
2 HACKER'S PARTNER
3 SLIGHT INCLINATION
4 A PARTY WITHOUT THE PAINTER
5 CHARGEABLE FALSEHOOD
6 ONE WHO IS BITTER
7 CANTEN
8 STRETCHED
9 SIT OUT
10 HAVING LOST
11 CAR PEOPLE
12 LET'S HANG OUT
13 HAVING REACHED THE HIGHEST POINT

DOWN
1 MASTER
2 INCORRECT SPEECH
3 PRINCIPAL CLUE
4 ATTENDANT
5 BAT
6 SCOUT
7 GERMAN TOWN
8 EXTEND
9 GET ACCOMMODATION
10 HAUNTER
11 SEDUCER
12 VALIANT SORT
13 BIT INTO PARTY
14 FOUNDRY

MoD pays for body's return

The Ministry of Defence confirmed yesterday that it will pay the £2,885 bill for flying the body of a British nurse, Barbara Chick, back home from the Falklands.

The 35-year-old nurse died a year ago yesterday while trying to save a patient in a fire which killed eight people at Port Stanley hospital. Miss Chick, of Shire Hampton, Bristol, had earlier saved four other patients.

Prison death

A 31-year-old man was found hanged in the hospital wing of Manchester Prison yesterday. Roy McInnes was on remand for medical reports, after being charged with burglary.

Money supply increase hits bank rate hopes

Continued from page one

over the past year. Officials said that this may reflect borrowing to speculate in currencies and the money markets, together with a burst of leasing loans at the end of year.

Sterling made a firm start in early trading due to some heavy buying orders from Eastern European countries. But when the money supply figures were announced the pound moved up sharply more than a cent against the dollar. The dollar was already under selling pressure as dealers mulled over the latest comment from Mr Paul Volcker, the US Federal Reserve board chairman, that US economic growth may fade because of

imbalances in the economy. The pound also showed strong gains against the German mark, climbing just over two pence to 3.8100. This helped push the effective index against a basket of currencies from 76.5 to 77.3.

Money market rates were a shade easier, even after the figures. The markets seemed to believe that the authorities now want the other clearing banks to come down in line with the recent cuts to 13 per cent taken by two of the clearing banks.

Lords and National Westminster rather than move upwards by a 4 per cent to match the others. However, there is little expectation of further early cuts.

THE WEATHER

Brighter after rain

A TROUGH of low pressure is expected to be over much of England and Scotland at first, moving E to clear most areas during the afternoon.

London: SE, Cal S and SW England, Cal S, becoming brighter with showers, Wind S, 10-15 mph, locally strong. Max 9 to 11C (46 to 52F).
E Anglia, E and NE England: Cloudy with some rain, becoming brighter with scattered showers, later. Wind S, 10-15 mph, locally strong. Max 9 to 11C (46 to 52F).
Wales: Rain at first, followed by sun or bright intervals, then rain. Wind S, 10-15 mph, locally strong. Max 9 to 11C (46 to 52F).
Lake District: Rain at first, followed by sun or bright intervals, then rain. Wind S, 10-15 mph, locally strong. Max 9 to 11C (46 to 52F).
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